

Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

(Except August and September)

Vol. 7

February, 1902

No. 2

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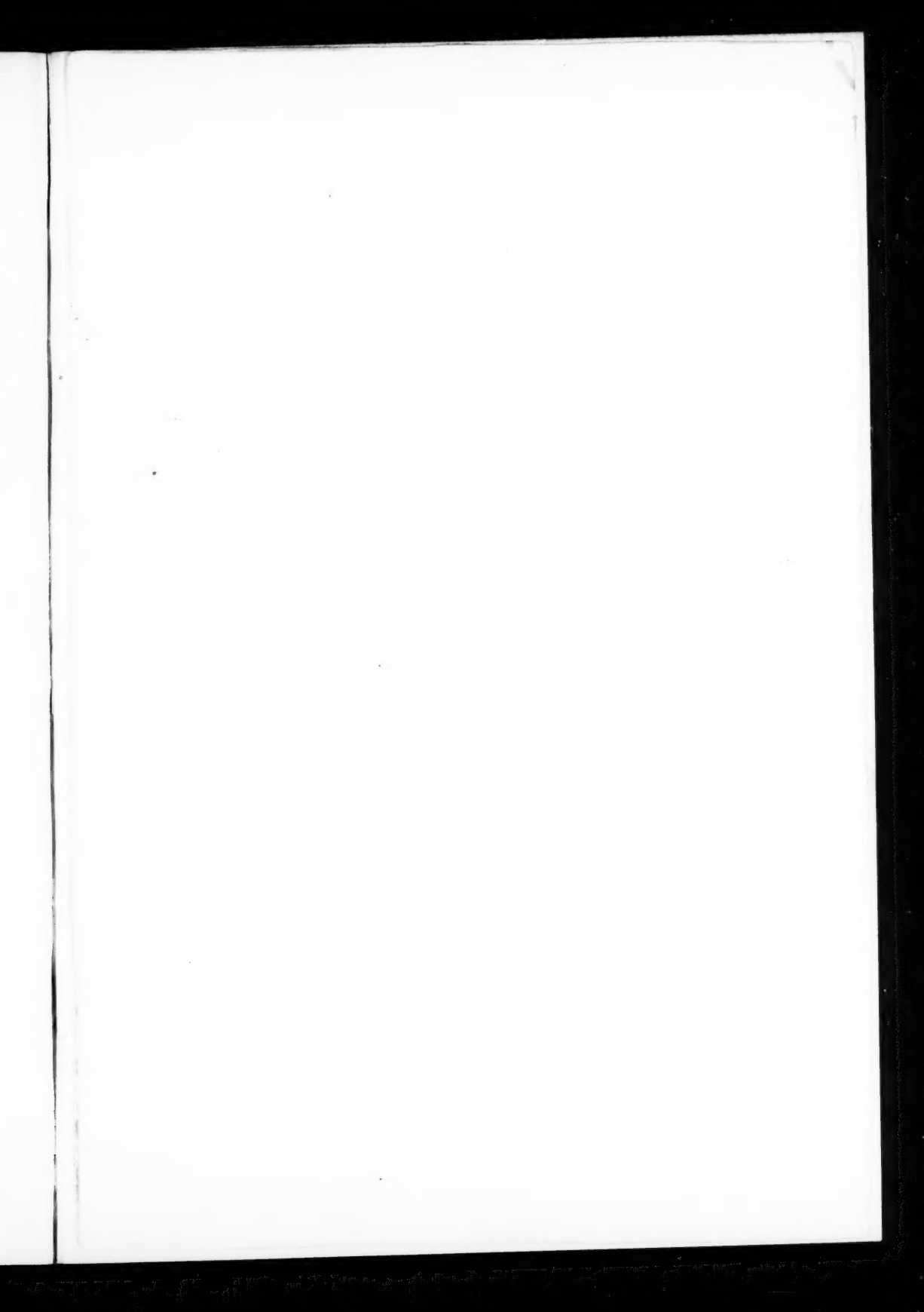
NEW YORK

PHILADELPHIA

WASHINGTON

LONDON

Entered as second-class matter at Chicago Postoffice





Public Libraries

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Library Legislation in 1901

W. F. Yust, Assistant state inspector of libraries, Albany, N. Y.

The summary of legislation for 1901, which was recently published by the New York State library, contains a specially large amount of material on libraries. In the report of the public libraries division it covers 106 laws in 31 states and Oklahoma territory. Thirteen local acts of New York state are included, and one of Illinois. Thirty-nine laws were enacted by the Central states, the North Atlantic division coming next with 30. Much of this legislation aims at the extension of the use of existing libraries, coöperation between municipalities, and the formation of new libraries in small towns, schools, and rural districts. Cities and library boards are given greater freedom of action in the establishment and management of libraries; special appropriations are larger, and in six states the maximum tax limit has been raised.

Eight states passed acts general or comprehensive in scope. Washington has followed the New York law very closely; Pennsylvania, those of Massachusetts and New Jersey. At the time the laws were passed by their respective legislatures Idaho had no free circulating library and Delaware but three. The California law has a special feature, making it obligatory on town and city authorities to establish a public library on petition of 25 per cent of the voters. This corresponds to that section in the New York law which provides

that whenever 25 taxpayers shall so petition the question shall be voted on at the next election. In California the ordinance may be repealed, however, on petition of 25 per cent of the voters, and the library disestablished. In New York, on the other hand, a library once established by public vote, or action of school authorities, can be abolished only by a majority vote at two successive annual elections. The Indiana law is also mandatory if a certain amount is raised for library purposes by popular subscription. The Oregon act fixes the maximum tax limit at 1-5 mill, which will give an income so small as to make the law almost prohibitive for all but a few large cities.

In several states coöperation was encouraged for the smaller and poorer municipalities. In Maine, towns may unite to form public libraries, or may appropriate money to secure the free use of libraries in adjoining towns, and receive annually from the state a duplicate amount equal to 10 per cent of such appropriation. In Pennsylvania cities under 100,000, and school districts and incorporated library associations therein, may coöperate to erect and maintain free public libraries. In Wisconsin, townships, villages, and cities may give financial aid to libraries, free for their use located in neighboring places. Aiding such libraries is also to entitle them to a voice in their government.

Separate laws providing for school libraries were passed in Missouri, Ore-

gon, South Dakota and North Carolina. In the latter state, if \$10 is raised by subscription for a rural school library, \$10 shall be added by the county superintendent of schools and \$10 by the state board of education. The amount thus brought together is to form a nucleus for the purchase of books. Pennsylvania has supplemented her law relating to central free public libraries established by school districts, so that they may be divided and distributed among the schools of the respective districts. In Indiana school trustees in cities of 15,000 are given power to issue bonds for library buildings.

County libraries also came in for consideration. It is interesting to note that these were provided for in the constitution of Indiana as early as 1816. No less than six acts were passed between 1818 and 1852 for their organization and management in that state; but only a few of these libraries still remain. The Wyoming law, passed in 1886, authorized the levy of an annual tax of $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mill for county libraries. An amendment aiming to make it more effective was passed in February last. Nevertheless, Cincinnati and Van Wert, Ohio, are each claiming the distinction of priority in the matter of inaugurating the county library movement as a result of laws passed in 1898. This year Wisconsin passed a bill, one section of which is practically a copy of the Ohio law. It allows permanent county libraries to be established and maintained by a board of library directors.

In Michigan the grange libraries are to have closer relations with the state library and be allowed to draw books from it. They are to report to the state librarian, who shall print these reports and distribute them to libraries. He shall also give advice and instruction to grange officers. The lecturer of the state grange is constituted advisory officer to consult with the state librarian on grange libraries. Illinois appropriated \$2500 per annum for the purchase of books, and for maintenance of the Illinois Farmers' institute free libraries. State library commissions were created

in Idaho, Washington, Delaware and Nebraska. Acts for enlarging their powers, duties, and funds were passed in seven other states. This is also a somewhat recent phase of library work, Massachusetts making the beginning in 1890. At present there are commissions in 20 states. Unsuccessful efforts to establish them were made this year in Illinois, Missouri, and South Dakota. This is the third defeat in Illinois, where the State library association has been working since 1895 for the passage of such an act. In South Dakota, even though no appropriation was asked, one member of the assembly moved to amend the title to read, A bill to provide employment for idle people. The commission was to consist of the state superintendent of education, the secretary of the State historical society, and the librarian of the State university. In each of these states new efforts will be made at the next session of the legislature.

The Pennsylvania commission secured an annual appropriation of \$1750. It has been in operation since 1899, but has had to depend on private sources for its funds. The Georgia commission, although established in 1897, is now the only one receiving no state aid, the enabling act specifying that the commission shall be of no expense whatever to the state.

Tennessee also passed a law establishing a State library commission, but its only duty will be to have charge of the state library and select the librarian. The latter task has hitherto fallen to the legislature, and has been for years one of the important events of the session. At the last election of a librarian there was a deadlock among the gallant solons for several days, owing to the irresistible charms of rival lady candidates.

A large number of acts relating to state libraries indicates to some extent the growing change in ideas concerning their function. Originally consisting almost entirely of law books, and intended only for the use of the legislature and state officers, they are gradually com-

ing to be regarded as the proper center of the library interests of the state. The view is also gaining ground that the library commission of a state should be identical with the governing body of the state library, as is the case in New York state and in Ohio. New Hampshire has accordingly passed a law whereby its library commission and the trustees of the state library are to be gradually consolidated, leaving only three commissioners, not more than two of which shall be from one political party.

New York state added to her statutes a very important one relating to gifts and bequests. After 25 years from the date of a gift for educational purposes the supreme court may administer the property without a literal compliance with the terms of the donor, but in such a manner as will most effectually accomplish the general purpose of the gift.

Among the minor acts also there are several of considerable interest. California has made the mutilation of books in libraries a misdemeanor, formerly a felony. Missouri declares it unlawful for a person related to any director on the library board to be employed in the library. The North Carolina legislature has required a separate place to be fitted up in the state library for Negroes. In Idaho, where teachers have heretofore been devoting 30 minutes per week to teaching pupils kindness toward one another and all living creatures, they are now instead to give one hour a week to systematically reviewing the works of the school library. In Michigan a new law says women's study clubs may receive books from the state library instead of stating simply that study clubs may do so. The prominent work done by women's clubs in advancing library interests and in securing legislation frequently manifests itself in this way. Washington in creating a library commission weakens an otherwise excellent law with the trivial provision that the secretary must be a woman.

Although there are competent author-

ities in almost every state who might be consulted with profit, and in spite of excellent laws that might serve as models, such blunders are repeated annually. One of this year's local acts of New York permits the council of Cohoes to expend for the maintenance of a public library not over \$2500 annually. When this amount becomes insufficient further legislation will be necessary to allow for ordinary growth and development. The enabling acts for libraries at Johnstown, Mt Vernon, and Yonkers have similar defects. The consideration of these and other errors led the New York State library association committee on legislation, in their last report, to suggest that it would be to the interests of both trustees and founders of libraries to submit all proposed special legislation to the state library department for suggestions with regard to careful wording. Some special legislation could thus be made more satisfactory and others avoided altogether.

The Cutter Three-figure Author Tables

Hitherto libraries that have adopted the Cutter two-figure tables, if they wished to use three figures in biography, fiction, English literature, or elsewhere, have been obliged to assign the third figure themselves. They could not use the Cutter-Sanborn three-figure tables in continuation of the Cutter two-figure tables because these were made independently, and differ both in the combinations of letters given and the numbers that would fall to any name. But a set of three-figure tables has at last been prepared on the same lines as the shorter tables, and, therefore, in fact including them. They can be procured from C. A. Cutter, Northampton, Mass., or from the Library Bureau. As they are a little smaller (and handier) than the Cutter-Sanborn tables they are furnished at a less price, \$2.25. To libraries that already have the two-figure tables the new tables will be sold for their own use for \$1 50.

List of 100 Best Books of 1901

Dr G. E. Wire, Worcester, Mass.

1 This list is intended to help a small (5000v.) library, and excludes fiction, adult and juvenile.

2 It takes in all of 1901—though as a matter of fact no books were noted in either the Publishers' weekly of the first two weeks and last two weeks of the year—no new editions excepting Who's who in America 1901, have been admitted, and but few text-books.

3 Aside from a few reference books the price limit has been kept at \$2.50, and most of the books fall below \$1.50 in price. There is, however, a marked increase and the number of net books is greater. This net system bids fair to be a hardship to small libraries.

4 No local foreign books are admitted, and only a few in the sciences, useful arts, or amusements.

5 Proportions have been varied from former lists. Sociology is only one-half as large as 1900, and nearer the proportions of 1898 and 1899.

Natural sciences are a little heavier at the ends, medicine is omitted entirely, and more attention paid to engineering and the building trades.

Fine arts and amusements are strong. Literature is represented mainly by histories. Being at peace—officially—all war questions have been omitted and some popular books of European travel and some few United States travel and history put in for the 900's.

6 Biography is on same lines as in other lists. It includes two most striking autobiographies and some collections. Who's who in America 1901, is so much larger than the same book in 1899 that it has been noted, in the hopes that some who omitted it then may purchase it now; of its size, class, and price it is the most useful book on the market today.

- 010 **Rawlings, G. B.** Story of books. N. Y.,
Z Appleton, 1901. S. cl., net 35 cents. (Li-
brary of useful stories.)
- 031 **Phyfe, W. H. P.** Five thousand facts
A and fancies; a cyclopedia of important,
curious, quaint and unique information
in history, literature, science, art and

- 070 nature. Putnam, 1901. O, half leather,
ZA net \$5.
- 173 **Hemstreet, C.** Reporting for the news-
BP papers. N. Y., Wessels, 1901. S. cl.,
178 75 cents.
- IB **C—**, Home thoughts. N. Y., Barnes,
200 1901. D. cl., \$1.50.
- BT **Calkins, R.** Substitutes for the saloon;
an investigation made for the Commit-
tee of fifty... B. Houghton, 1901. D.
cl., net \$1.30.
- 321 **Giles, H. A., and others.** Great reli-
gions of the world. N. Y., Harper, 1901.
O. cl., net \$2.
- J **Schwinn, E. and Stevenson, W. W.**
Civil government; describing the va-
rious forms of government, local, state
and national, and discussing the govern-
ments of the United States from an his-
torical standpoint. Ph. Lippincott, 1901.
D. cl., net \$1.
- 331.8 **Gilman, B.** Back to the soil: or from
IG tenement house to farm colony; a cir-
cular solution of an angular problem.
B. L. C. Page, 1901. D. cl., \$1.25.
- 364 **Flynt, Josiah** (pseud.) World of Graft,
TB N. Y., Maclure-Phillips. D. cl., \$1.25.
- 371 **Payne, W. H.** Education of Teachers,
IP Richmond, Va., Johnson, 1901. O. cl.,
\$1.50.
- 371 **Search, P. W.** An ideal school; or
IK looking forward. N. Y., Appleton, 1901.
D. cl., net \$1.20. (International educa-
tion series.)
- 378 **Sheldon, H. D.** Student life and cus-
IX toms. N. Y., Appleton, 1901. D. cl.,
\$1.20 net. (International education se-
ries.)
- 392.5 **Bingham, J. T.** Christian marriage;
KWM the ceremony, its history and signifi-
cance; ritual, practical and archeologi-
cal notes and the text of the English,
Roman, Greek, and Jewish ceremonies.
N. Y., Dutton, 1901, il., D., \$2.
- 395 **Kingsland, Mrs. B.** Etiquette for all
BQQ occasions. N. Y., Doubleday Page, 1901.
D. cl., net \$1.50.
- 396 **Mason, A. E.** Woman in the golden
KW ages. N. Y., Century Co., 1901. D. cl.,
net \$1.80.
- 421.5 **Ayres, A.** Some ill-used words. N. Y.
XXX Appleton. S. cl., \$1.
- 523 **Newcomb, S.** The stars: a study of
LT The Universe. N. Y., Putnam, 1901. O.
cl., \$2. (Science series.)
- 523 **Serviss, G. P.** Pleasures of the tele-
LR scope... N. Y., Appleton, 1901. O. cl.,
\$1.50.
- 535.86 **Parker, E. J.** The lantern: being a
LKS treatise on the magic lantern and stere-
opticon. N. Y., Caygill, 1901. S. cl.,
60 cents.
- 540 **Meade, R. K.** Chemist's pocket man-

- LO ual: ...Easton, Pa., Chem. Pub. Co., 1901. S., morocco, \$2.
- 550 **Brigham, A. P.** Text-book of geology. N. Y., Appleton, 1901. O. cl., \$1.40. (Twentieth century text-books.)
- 551.5 **Phipsou, T. L.** Researches on the past and present history of the earth's atmosphere, including the latest discoveries and their practical applications. Ph. Lippincott. D. cl., net \$1.
- 583.7 **Clute, W. N.** Our native ferns in their haunts; a guide to all the native species. N. Y., Stokes, 1901. O. cl., net \$2.15.
- 588.2 **Grout, A. J.** Mosses with a hand lens; a nontechnical handbook of the more common and more easily recognized mosses of the Northeastern United States, Flatbush, L. I. Grout, 1901; O. cl., \$1.10.
- 590 **Adams, W. I. L.** Woodland and meadow; out-of-door papers written on a New Hampshire farm, illustrated from photographs from nature by the author and others. N. Y., Baker, 1901. Q. cl., \$2.50.
- 590 **Grinnell, M.** Neighbors of field, wood and stream; or through the year with nature's children. N. Y., Stokes, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.30.
- 590 **Rice, W.** Animals: a popular natural history of wild beasts. Chicago, Stone, 1901. O. cl., \$2.
- 595.7 **Howard, L. O.** The insect book; a popular account of the bees, wasps, ants, grasshoppers, flies and other North American insects, exclusive of the butterflies, moths, and beetles; with full life histories, tables and biographies. N. Y., Doubleday Page, 1901. O. cl., net \$2.
- 595.76 **Howard, L. O.** Mosquitoes; how they live, how they carry disease, how they are classified, how they may be destroyed. N. Y., Maclure-Phillips, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.50.
- 595.78 **Dickerson, M. C.** Moths and butterflies; with 200 photographs from life by the author. B. Ginn, 1901. O. cl., \$2.50.
- 595.79 **Morley, M. W.** Wasps and their ways. N. Y., Dodd, 1900. D. cl., \$1.50.
- 598.2 **Babcock, C. A.** Bird day; how to prepare for it. N. Y., Silver, 1901. Sq. D. cl., 50 cents.
- 598.2 **Thompson, E. S.** Bird portraits; with descriptive text by R. Hoffman. B. Ginn, O. cl., \$1.50.
- 603 **Hopkins, A. A., Ed.** Scientific American cyclopaedia of receipts, notes and queries. N. Y., Munn, 1901. O., half morocco, \$5.
- 609 **Wallace, A. R., and others.** Progress of the century. N. Y., Harpers, 1901. O. cl., \$2.50.
- 620 **American Engineering Competitions.** a series of articles resulting from an investigation made by the Times, London. N. Y., Harpers, 1901. O. cl., \$1.
- 621.1 **Wakeman, W: H:** Engineering practice and theory, for steam engineers. New Haven, Conn. Wakeman, 1901. D. cl., \$1.
- 621.3 **Cushing, H. C. Jr.** Standard wiring for electric light and power, as adopted by the fire underwriters of the United States. . . N. Y., Cushing, 1901. S., flexible leather, \$1.
- 621.3 **Poole, C. P. (and others).** Electrical designs; comprising instructions for constructing small motors, testing instruments and other apparatus, with working drawings for each design. N. Y., American Electrician, 1901. O. cl., \$2.
- 634 **Waugh, T. A.** Fruit harvesting, storing, marketing; a practical guide to the picking, sorting, packing, storing, shipping and marketing of fruit. N. Y., Judd, 1901. D. cl., \$1.
- 636.7 **Bolton, S. K.** Our devoted friend, the dog. B. Page & Co., 1901. O. cl., \$1.50.
- 641 **Burrell, C. B.** Gala-day luncheons: a little book of suggestions. N. Y., Dodd, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.20.
- 641 **Sachse, H.** How to cook for the sick and convalescent; arranged for the physician, trained nurse, and house use. Ph. Lippincott. D. cl., net \$1.
- 642 **White, F. E.** Spatula soda water guide and book of formulas for soda water dispensers. B. Spatula Pub. Co., 1901. O. pap., \$1.
- 646 **Clothes and the Man;** hints on the wearing and caring of clothes: by the Major of today. N. Y., Mansfield, 1901. S. cl., \$1.
- 654.6 **Homans, J. E.** A. B. C. of the telephone: . . . N. Y., Andel, 1901. D. cl., \$1.
- 655.25 **DeVenne, T. L.** Correct composition: a treatise on spelling, abbreviations, the compounding and division of words, the proper use of figures and numerals, italic and capital letters, notes, etc., with observations on punctuation and proof-reading. N. Y., Century Co., 1901. D. cl., net \$2.
- 658 **Phillips, W. B.** How department stores are carried on. N. Y., Dodd, 1901. S. cl., 50 cents.
- 657 **Neal, E. V. and Cragin, C. T.** Modern illustrative bookkeeping, designed as a text-book for all schools giving a course in business training; introductory course; script illustrations by E. C. Mill. N. Y., Williams, 1901. Q. cl., \$1.25.

- 676 **Butler, F. O.** Story of paper making: an account of paper making from its earliest known record down to the present time. Chicago, J. W. Butler Paper Co., 1901. O. cl., \$1.
- 693.2 **Richards, H. W.** Bricklaying and brick-cutting. N. Y., Longmans. O. cl., \$1.25.
- 695 **Roofing, cornice and skylight manual:** practical articles on laying flat and standing seam roofing, cornice shop practice, and skylight construction. N. Y., D. Williams, 1901. D. cl., \$1.50.
- 696.1 **Hasluck, P. N.** Practical gasfitting, including gas manufacture. N. Y., Cassell, 1901. D. cl., \$1.
- 697.3 **Snow, W. G.** Furnace heating; a practical and comprehensive treatise on warming buildings with hot air; with an appendix on furnace fittings. N. Y., Longmans, 1901. D. cl., \$1.25.
- 699 **Mower, C. D.** How to build a motor launch. N. Y., Rudder. Pub. Co., 1901, folio, cl., \$1.
- 709 **Hoppen, J. M.** Great epochs in art history. B. Houghton, 1901. O. cl., net \$1.75.
- 710 **Robinson, C. M.** Improvement of towns and cities: or the practical basis of civil aesthetics. N. Y., Putnam, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.25.
- 716 **Tallack, J. C.** Book of the greenhouse; with a special chapter on the little town greenhouse. N. Y., Lane. D. cl., net \$1. (Handbooks of practical gardening, Vol. 2.)
- 726 **Cram, R. A.** Church building: A study of the principles of architecture in their relations to the church. B. Small, 1901. O. cl., net \$2.50.
- 728.6 **Holman, E. E.** Picturesque summer cottages; containing 37 new and original designs for summer cottages, including also some summer boarding houses, houseboats and boathouses. Vol. 1-2. Phil. Holman. ob. Q. 4to. paper, each \$1.
- 738 **Brown, W. N.** Art of enameling in metal. N. Y., Van Nostrand, 1901. D. cl., \$1.
- 739 **Brown, W. N.** Principle and practice of dipping, burnishing, lacquering and bronzing brassware. N. Y., Van Nostrand, 1901. D. cl., \$1.
- 740 **Miller, F.** Artcrafts for amateurs. N. Y., Truslove, 1901. D. cl., \$2.
- 782.1 **Apthorp, W. T.** Opera, past and present: an historical sketch. N. Y., Scribner, 1901. D. cl., \$1.25 net. (Music lovers' library.)
- 783.8 **Mees, A.** Choirs and choral music. N. Y., Scribners, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.25. (Music lovers' library.)
- 784.9 **Marchesi, M.** Ten singing lessons; preface by Madame Melba, introduction by W. J. Henderson. N. Y., Harper, 1901. O. cl., net \$1.50.
- 792 **Strang, L. C.** Famous actresses of the day in America. Two series. B. Page, 1902. S. cl., \$1.50. (Stage lovers' series.)
- 794 **Spayth, H.** The checker player: . . . N. Y., Dick, 1901. Q. cl., \$2.
- 795 **Melrose, C. J.** Bridgewise; its whys and wherefores: . . . N. Y., Scribner, 1901. D. cl., \$1.40.
- 796 **Paret, J. P.** Woman's guide of sports: a practical guide to physical development and outdoor recreation. N. Y., Appleton, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.
- 797 **Knight, E. F.** Small boat sailing: or practical hints for practical yachtsmen. N. Y., Dutton, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.50.
- 803 **Champlin, J. D.** Young folks' cyclopedia of literature and art. N. Y., Holt, 1901. O. cl., \$2.50.
- 808 **Blackstone, H., Comp.** New pieces that will take prizes in speaking contests. N. Y., Hinds, 1901. D. cl., \$1.25.
- 811.09 **Onderdonk, J. L.** History of American verse, 1610-1897. Chicago, McClurg, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.25.
- 811.4 **Rose, R. C.** At the sign of the ginger jar: some verses gay and grave. Chicago, McClurg, 1901. O. cl., \$1 net.
- 814.4 **Matthews, J. B.** The historical novel and other essays. N. Y., Scribner, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.25.
- 820.08 **Dennis, J.** Realms of gold: a student's book of English literature. N. Y., Mansfield, 1901. S. cl., \$1.25.
- 823.8 **Beers, H. A.** History of English romanticism in the nineteenth century. N. Y., Holt, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.75.
- 840.9 **Kastner, L. E. and Atkins, H. G.** Short history of French literature. N. Y., Holt, 1901. D. cl., \$1.25.
- 895 **Giles, H. A.** History of Chinese literature. N. Y., Appleton, 1901. D. cl., \$1.50. (Literature of the world series.)
- 914.15 **Johnson, C.** The isle of the shamrock; written and illustrated by Clifton Johnson. N. Y., Macmillan, 1901. D. cl., net \$2.
- 914.3 **Dawson, W. H.** German life in town and country. N. Y., Putnam, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.20. (Our European neighbor series.)
- 914.4 **Lynch, H.** French life in town and country. N. Y., Putnam, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.20. (Our European neighbor series.)
- 914.7 **Palmer, F. H. E.** Russian life in town and country. N. Y., Putnam, 1901. D. cl., \$1.20 net. (Our European neighbor series.)

- 914.92 G46 **Hough, P. M.** Dutch life in town and country. N. Y., Putnam, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.20. (Our European neighbor series.)
- 914.95 G32 **Horton, G.** Modern Athens, il., by C. K. Linson, N. Y., Scribner, 1901. O. cl., net \$1.25.
- 915.15 G60 **Rignhart, S. C., M. D.** With the Thibetans in tent and temple: a narrative of four years' residence on the Thibetan border, and of a journey into the far interior. N. Y., Revell, D. cl., \$1.50.
- 917.5 G83 **Avirett, J. B.** The old plantation: how we lived in great house and cabin before the war. N. Y., Neeley, 1901, D. cl., \$1.50.
- 917.98 G83 **Taylor, C. M. Jr.** Touring Alaska and the Yellowstone, il. from photographs by the author. Ph. Jacobs. D. cl., net \$1.60.
- B E **Who's who in America.** Chicago, Marquis, 1901. D. cl., \$2.75.
- B E **Harkins, E. F.** Little pilgrimages among the men who have written famous books. B. Page, 1901. S. cl., \$1.50. (Sketches of 19 living American authors.)
- B E **Riis, J. A.** The making of an American. N. Y., Macmillan, 1901. O. cl., net \$2.
- B E **Washington, B. T.** Up from slavery: an autobiography. N. Y., Doubleday Page, 1901. D. cl., \$1.50.
- 940.9 F07 **Latimer, Mrs E. W.** Last years of the nineteenth century. Chicago, McClurg, 1901. O. cl., \$2.50.
- 940.9 F07 **Nineteenth century (The);** a review of progress during the past 100 years in the chief departments of human activity. N. Y., Putnam, 1901. O. cl., \$2.
- 973 F83 **Hart, A. B., Ed.** American history told by contemporaries. V. 3, national expansion 1783-1845. N. Y., Macmillan, 1901. O. cl., \$2.
- 973.16 F83 **Lowery, W.** Spanish settlements within the present limits of the United States 1513-1561. N. Y., Putnam, 1901. O. cl., net \$2.50.
- 973.7 F83 **Burgess, J. W.** Civil war and the constitution 1859-1865. N. Y., Scribner, 1901. 2 v., D. cl., each \$1 net. (American history series.)
- 978 F83 **Hosmer, J. K.** A short history of the Mississippi Valley. B. Houghton, 1901. D. cl., net \$1.20.
- 978 F83 **Powell, L. P., Ed.** Historic towns of the western states, N. Y., Putnam, 1901, O. cl., \$3. (American historic towns.)

Up to the end of 1901 Andrew Carnegie had given money for the establishment of 177 libraries in this country at a total cost of \$17,508,000.

Women on Library Boards

It is a matter for congratulation that women are universally taking up civic duties more and more, and are fulfilling them with intelligence and dignity. The responsibilities and privileges of citizenship pertain to women as well as men, though the former are deprived politically of the outward and visible sign of that inward and spiritual grace. This disability, however, need not prevent them from becoming potent factors in the increasingly strenuous fight for the best civic conditions attainable.

There are, as is well known, divers ways in which women can be and are of service to their communities, and many are already doing good work as members of library boards and commissions. Women and their clubs have done more than a little in forwarding the public library movement in several states, and a few have been instrumental in establishing libraries in their cities. For some reason, however, library committee work does not seem to have appealed to women as forcibly as some other civic departments; yet it is in this field that the services of cultivated, sensible women can be of great value in conjunction with the business experience and executive ability of the male portion of library boards of trustees or committees.

Plato says: Many women are better calculated for certain things than many men, nor is there any department of government work which is exclusively adapted for woman as woman or man as man . . . man and woman share alike in all occupations, only that in all things woman is the weaker part.

It is no use denying that whether she ever attains to the dignity of political citizenship, which is after all a somewhat questionable advantage or not, she indirectly or directly wields an influence individually or collectively. "Cherchez la femme" is a common saying; if it has a foundation of truth other than sinister, why not then recognize this influence openly and let it be directed to nobler purposes than is possible, as long

as she is slightly referred to as "Dea ex machina," the "Eternal feminine," etc., or obtains her aims and ends socially or politically, chiefly on the strength of being the "weaker part."

Excluding large cities, it is not too much, we think, to say, that in small communities the average library board, with the usual delightful exceptions, is composed of members, most of whom are too busy to concern themselves with more than the absolute essentials of financial administration, including the proper disposal of and accounting for the city's library appropriation.

Many of them beyond knowing that the library, of which they are proud, is a good and necessary possession which must be controlled economically, take but perfunctory interest in its vital work, and do not fully realize its educational value and importance.

Such members cannot be considered as efficient judges in the evaluation of literature, or as valuable counselors in library matters. In consequence the work of a competent, progressive librarian is often considerably hampered for want of proper recognition and financial assistance from the city, owing to lack of support from the board of trustees.

The duties of trustees and their relations to librarians have been the subject of much discussion, and interesting statements and valuable hints may be found in the several papers of C. C. Soule, trustee of the Brookline Public library, Massachusetts; F. M. Crunden, of the St. Louis Public library, and S. S. Green, of the Worcester Public library, Massachusetts, which are published in the Proceedings of the A. L. A. conference for 1890.

Women are prominent members of school boards and school committees, and more of them would be found on library boards if they realized how much there is to do in this connection which is specially suited to their ability.

In making this statement we do not advocate a preponderance of women on such boards. Wherever public funds have to be administered it appears to be

more in accordance with the present state of public opinion for male citizens to be answerable for their proper disposal with due regard to the common weal.

In almost every community there are women of recognized ability, dignity, and tact possessing the additional requisites of culture, common sense, and leisure, who would be sufficiently public spirited to give their attention, if elected, to the problems of library administration, and could obtain practical knowledge which would be of great value in presenting library matters to a committee. Their social contact with other citizens enables them to become acquainted with local needs, and places them in a position to present these needs in conjunction with those reported by the librarian to their colleagues on the library board, in such a manner as to result in substantial advantages to and increased usefulness of the library in a community.

The race is to the young, and catering for the coming generation is a comparatively new and increasingly important department of library work.

What does the average man know of the demands and necessities of this work beyond theoretical hypotheses, whereas who can better present such needs after consultation and in conjunction with the librarian than a woman who need not necessarily be a mother in order to do this adequately?

Such women always, supposing a wise selection is made, can be of great assistance, not only to the library and librarian, but also to the schools and school teachers and clubs and club women.

Among civic authorities the librarian though respected and appreciated is sometimes regarded as a person of partisan views, who considers the library as the department par excellence of civic work, and estimates its requirements from the financial standpoint at a higher figure than the civic authorities feel justified in appropriating for it. In consequence his or her recommendations however necessary, unless backed

loyally by the intelligent support of the library board, are liable to be discounted.

A library report no matter how good can never present its case or its work fully, but a few words from absolutely unprejudiced, trusty persons, who have had time to look impartially into a matter from all points of view, can sum up the situation and its requirements concisely and graphically, and will often inspire confidence and command immediate attention for vital matters, otherwise liable to be tabled for want of detailed proper information otherwise unprocurable, owing to the inability of members of the board to obtain it on account of more pressing business or more weighty municipal affairs.

A library is an important part of civic administration; it is controlled by business principles and exists to supply reasonable demands, but it differs in this respect, that whereas a business is controlled and administered by thoroughly competent persons possessing technical knowledge of all its branches, material and financial, a library is administered by wisely chosen, practical librarians who understand the needs of their localities and clientele, but controlled by a body usually unversed in its technical necessities, and in many instances antagonistic to outlay for experimental work or expansion. A greater degree of coöperation between the inside library executive and the outside library control is essential to produce the best results. It would seem that a combination of the librarian's experience, the woman's instinct, and the man's logic and presumably broad way of regarding public matters would be advantageous to library boards.

It is a matter that might be considered more by women, but it requires public spirit, sound judgment, absolute impartiality, and freedom from fads, isms, schisms, or notions of any kind.

Education in free countries is a vital necessity, and any citizen who forwards the cause directly or indirectly has not lived in vain.

Duties of Library Trustees *

G. M. Titus, library trustee, Muscatine, Iowa

The safety and perpetuity of this republic depends very largely upon the standard of intelligence maintained among the masses. In a country such as ours, where every man's sovereignty is under his hat, if we would drive out anarchy, cause all men to be patriotic citizens; if we would prove the falsity of the prophecy made many years ago by wise men, that the life of a republic like ours is necessarily a limited one, there must be some potent influence kept in action to control, and keep in the right channels, the thoughts and desires of our citizens.

To my mind the free public library, more than our educational institutions, will be the preserver of our national life and the powerful force that will continue to increase the influence of this great government that now seems to be carrying the hopes of the human race.

The mayor and council of a town or city have charge of its streets and alleys, its fire department, police force, and, in this state, its mulct saloons. The town or city school board have charge of the employment of teachers for such children as are disposed to attend school and look after the housing of them while in attendance. But the really important and most influential citizen of any town or city is the one who has charge of, and largely directs, what the citizens of that community read.

I am not prepared to admit unqualifiedly the truth of the adage that The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world. The hand that delivers from the free public libraries of the land the books that are taken to the homes and firesides is the hand that equals any intellectual force I know of. Henry Ward Beecher said, Men have different spheres. It is for some to evolve great moral truths, as the heavens evolve stars to guide the sailor on

*Read before the Iowa State Library association at Burlington, Oct. 10, 1901.

the sea and the traveler in the desert, and it is for some, like the sailor and the traveler, simply to be guided.

The right kind of a librarian is the one who, ever ready with a kind suggestion to the patron of the library, is unconsciously guiding him along helpful lines and rendering him invaluable assistance in the development of his mind in the right direction.

The ministers of the gospel, teachers in our public schools, men who serve in departments of public life, in matters of permanent influence upon their fellow-men, are not to be compared with the power and influence of the right sort of librarians.

Next in importance to the librarian is the library trustee. The trustee's first and principal duty, it appears to me, is, to have a due and proper appreciation of the responsibilities of his position. While the success or failure of a public library in any community devolves quite largely upon the librarian, the librarian has an uphill pull without the active coöperation and almost daily assistance of competent trustees. The librarian should constitute the hub and the trustees the spokes in the wheel of progress that is to bring about the intellectual uplift in the town or city where a public library is established. What a burdensome task it must be for a librarian to attempt, practically alone and single handed, to popularize a new public library, I mean without the assistance and coöperation of the board of trustees.

Since it becomes the duty of the trustees to select the librarian, they should be persons who would make the selection independently, considering only the peculiar fitness of the applicant, without fear or favor, and without regard to the place of residence of the applicant. Let them clearly understand that the library was not established for the purpose of creating a place for some local party, regardless of his fitness for such a position. If it becomes necessary to secure a librarian from another state the board should not hesitate to do so.

The trustees should take sufficient interest in the library to know whether the librarian is getting the best results for the money expended, and if not, they should not delay placing a more competent person in charge any longer than is necessary. Every library established in Iowa, and not conducted in the proper manner, is a positive damage to the library cause in the whole state. If the trustees are not intelligent, discerning, independent and interested men and women, they not only waste the money of the taxpayers, but they materially injure the library cause.

The few members of the Twenty-eighth general assembly of Iowa who opposed the bill for the establishment of a State library commission were men who could tell you of some sort of library in their district or local community that had been established but to fail. The excuse given by many people who are solicited to contribute to the book purchasing fund frequently is, that all prior efforts to establish a library in their city has been unsuccessful.

In my humble opinion, if the library cause is to flourish and prosper in Iowa, the boards of trustees must have a realizing sense of their duties and responsibilities, and then fearlessly and conscientiously discharge those duties. Men or women should not accept the position simply because they feel flattered that the mayor should compliment them with an appointment. If they haven't a kindly interest in humanity generally, if they do not see sufficient reward in being a factor in the intellectual development of their fellow-citizens, as the custodians of the books they read, they should decline to serve. The trustee who finds that, for business or other reasons, he cannot attend the meetings of the board, and otherwise do his part to secure the best results from the library, should promptly resign in order that his place may be filled by one who can give the proper attention to the matter. A public library without a competent and inter-

ested board of trustees is a greater misfortune to a community than an incompetent mayor and council.

Librarians are engaged in a glorious work. In my estimation they are the most important factors in the future development of the state. No cause is more worthy of help and sympathy from our citizens, and material support from those who have charge of the expenditure of the state funds, than the library work. When I meet one interested in library work I know at once that he is an unselfish person. I know at once that he or she does not live to eat, dress, and make money. They are not those who feel that the ends of life are answered in the satisfaction of their own appetites and ambitions. They are large-hearted, generous people, with a consciousness that the true mission of life lies in discharging all Heaven-prescribed and conscientious duties to our fellow-men as well as to ourselves. I am confident that such a life leads as straight to Heaven's brightest gates as the track of a sunbeam to the bosom of a flower. All hail then to the workers in the library cause in this and all other countries! They are angels of civilization.

Poster Show at the Michigan City (Ind.) Public Library

Marilla W. Freeman, librarian

An exhibit of book and magazine posters was held at the Michigan City Public library during one week in November. Letters were written to some 25 publishers, asking for posters of their publications, and the response was in many cases most generous. The posters received from the Century company, from Scribner's Sons, and from R. H. Russell, were especially fine, and from one or two to a dozen or more effective posters were forwarded by nearly every publisher addressed. Large collections were sent by A. C. McClurg & Co. and by the Bowen-Merrill Co.

From these contributions, together with a collection previously gathered by the library, and several posters loaned

by individuals, a selection of something over 300 striking posters was made, and arranged upon the red burlap walls of the exhibit room on the second floor of the library. The posters were grouped somewhat by subjects: a children's wall was arranged; one of pictures representing college life, out-of-door life, and sports in general; a group of colonial designs, one of heroic subjects, and a very effective wall of some of the choicer art posters. The work of some of the most famous poster artists was represented: Eugene Grasset, Metivet, Pal, Mucha, Maxfield Parrish, Hy. Mayer, Edward Penfield, Will H. Low, Gibson, Ernest Haskell, and others. Attention was called to the various schools and styles of poster art by short articles in the local papers before and during the exhibit. An instructive feature was a series of 17 progressive proofs of a magazine cover for Scribner's magazine, showing how the various colors are combined to produce the finished cover.

To give an element of local interest, prizes were offered for the best original posters to be made by Michigan City amateurs. These posters might be done in pen-and-ink, water colors, crayons, chalks, or in any medium preferred. They might advertise either a book or magazine, or the poster show itself. The conditions of the contest were announced through the papers and in the schools. As a result some 40 posters were brought in, a number of which were highly creditable in design and execution. The first prize, an attractive little book, entitled *Posters in miniature*, was taken by a poster advertising the poster show; the second, by a spirited design illustrating Eggleston's *Caroline Cavalier*. Other specially effective posters advertised *Kim*, *Holland* and its people *Art in dress*, and *Over the plum pudding*, by Bangs.

During the first day and evening of the exhibit some 2000 people visited the library, and many more during the following week. A genuine interest in the study of the poster art was developed, as well as a quickened interest in the library itself.

Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Library Bureau	-	-	-	-	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	-	-	-	-	Editor
Subscription	-	-	-	-	\$1 a year
Five copies to one library	-	-	-	-	\$4 a year
Single number	-	-	-	-	20 cents

PUBLIC LIBRARIES does not appear in August or September, and 10 numbers constitute a volume.

Now that the time and place of the A. L. A. meeting for 1902 has been definitely settled, it remains for the librarians of the country to make it a great success. The meeting will give back in tenfold measure whatever spirit is carried into it, and a contribution of good-will, cheerfulness, interest, and helpfulness is due from every library worker in whatever place or position. We understand it is the intention of the eastern friends to use every effort for the comfort and entertainment of guests from outside, and such efforts will certainly be met with full appreciation by the travelers to "the stern and rock-bound coast."

PRES. ROOSEVELT in his message to congress shows he is following the work of the public library in speaking of it as follows:

Perhaps the most characteristic educational movement of the last 50 years is that which has created the modern public library and developed it into broad and active service. There are now over 5000 public libraries in the United States, the product of this period. In addition to accumulating material they are also striving by organization, by improvement in method, and by coöperation, to give greater efficiency to the material they hold, to make it more widely useful, and by avoidance of unnecessary duplication in process to reduce the cost of its administration.

It may be a timely lesson in some quarters to note the narrow escape from arrest of a librarian in an eastern town recently for offering for sale as junk a collection of public documents. The

point was made that the library had no legal right to the volumes, being used in the case merely as a United States depository for the use of the public and that the government did not surrender its proprietary interest in the documents. If a library has no use or no room for the documents they should be returned to the superintendent of documents at Washington, and in no case sold or destroyed. An understanding with the superintendent and a knowledge of conditions will prevent the receipt of material not wanted, and largely help in getting what is wanted.

THE various attitudes of the newspapers in smaller cities toward the library of the place show a wide divergence in the conception of the function of the library. Sometimes this is the fault plainly of the librarian, who likewise has not the proper idea of the relation existing between the two.

It should always be the aim of the librarian to secure the cordial good will and consequent coöperation of the newspapers for the library, by cheerfully rendering every help possible not only in individual needs, but in cases where the library is to be noticed by the newspaper. From a shortsighted policy a few newspapers refuse to publish the lists of new or special books. This is a loss to the library, but it is one that is shared by the newspaper refusing as well. It is not a situation that can be bettered by disputation, but frequently the difficulty can be overcome by tact.

On the other hand, a newspaper's position is about right when it insists that lists, and such like material that are to be printed, should be prepared by the library when the paper is willing to give space and comment to it. It may work a hardship on the librarian to prepare these, but it is legitimate work and ought to lead to a better appreciation of the library by the community, and eventually to a larger appropriation, which will relieve the hardship.

THE recent report of Mr Putnam of the Congressional library is a comprehensive report not only of the progress

and conditions of the library for the past year, but contains in addition a manual giving valuable information of the history, organization, and methods of the library.

An examination of the volume shows a most gratifying development of the library in the last few years; system, plan, intelligence, cohesion, are evident in every statement. One is impressed with the unfolding of the great purpose in the mind of the librarian as one reads these pages, showing plainly that the day is not very far distant when the United States will have a national library in fact and in name. The most liberal policy on the part of congress toward the library will meet the unqualified approval of everyone at all acquainted with the situation, and form one of the acts of legislation for which no excuse need be given to anyone.

In his report Mr Putnam calls attention strongly to the service of the library through its employes, to the increase of the library through additions, dwelling especially on the numerous gifts of historical papers, and setting out clearly and at length the schemes of printed catalog cards. The report on the copyright departments is particularly valuable, giving full information helpful to anyone interested. The historical part of the report is extremely interesting. The work of the various departments is told with many details as to methods, showing the relation of each part to the plan of the whole. The collections of the library now number 1,000,000, with large collections of maps, manuscripts, and music. The latter contains 319,121 pieces, the largest collection of the kind in the United States.

The report makes a quarto volume of 380 pages, full of interesting and valuable information and richly illustrated with halftones of various departments.

THE consciousness of having done a good deed ought to be sufficient reward for the doer; but unfortunately all of us have not grown large enough yet to be satisfied with that return and acknowl-

edgment. PUBLIC LIBRARIES has several times urged that the new libraries so generously given by Mr Carnegie be called Public libraries, and that due acknowledgment be made on bronze tablets or in any other way than by calling them Carnegie libraries. A case in point comes up in a town whose library board has just decided it shall have three names—the name of the man who gave the lot, Carnegie, and the name of the woman who gave the money for books. Suppose some one later should decide to give the library another gift, shall his name be left out, or will another hyphen with another name be added?

How much better it would be if the institution were called The Public Library without qualification, but with suitable notice somewhere in the building of the gifts which had made it possible. This would prove a stimulant to the class of people who give if their left hand may know the extent of the right hand's activity. The writer knows of several cases where people who have been asked to give to an institution which has outgrown its original endowment on account of which it had received its name, declined to subscribe to keeping up a monument to some one else, and an embarrassing situation is the result.

It is generally understood that there is no demand or even expectation on the part of Mr Carnegie that the libraries which he has so bountifully supplied be called by his name.

While his generosity seems unbounded now, it must be remembered that the first cost of a library in a growing town is by no means certain to be the greatest in its history, and that other gifts may be offered later depending on a change of name—a most unpleasant prospect. A bronze tablet, a memorial window, a handsome pillar or mantel, an engraved scroll, will serve the purpose of perpetuating the gratitude of a grateful public, and will often serve as an aid for securing other gifts, and never as an embarrassment. Such acknowledgment would seem better taste than hyphenated names.

The Cost of Books to Libraries

A meeting of the committee of the Massachusetts Library club, appointed to consider the cost of books under the net price system, was held at the Boston Public library, Tuesday, January 7, at 10 a. m. There were present Mr Gifford of the Cambridge Public library, Mr Jones of the Salem Public library, Mr Wellman of the Brookline Public library, and Mr Fleischner and Miss Macurdy of the Boston Public library. Representatives of several Boston publishing houses were also present. The chairman, Mr Gifford, stated the object of the conference, viz.: to ask information of the publishers as to the generally increased cost of books under the net price system, a cost increased to a greater degree than librarians had been led to expect when the new scheme of discounts was adopted by the Book publishers' association. A list of books prepared by Mr Wellman was submitted, on which the average increase over prices under the old system was shown to be 24 per cent. These books continued series, and had heretofore been issued at a uniformly lower rate.

To the small library, the chairman stated, to the average library even, the question of paying higher prices for books is a serious one. Their resources are none too large, and 24 per cent increase in the price of several books means fewer books for the same expenditure than formerly. The publishers present were not all members of the association. They were not sure but that mistakes had been made in some cases by the publishers, but thought if prices were analyzed all through the increase in some cases would be offset by a reduction in others.

In reply to the inquiry if there were any general increase in the cost of making books, it was stated that there were three items which had largely increased the cost of bookmaking: Binding, which had to be decorative and attractive to meet the higher standards of taste; illustration, which now costs five

times as much as formerly, and advertising, which was now expected by every author. Also, the cost of type-setting has advanced, and the cost of paper stock.

It was suggested that the committee communicate with the Book publishers' association, which held a meeting in New York January 8, stating the apprehension felt by the Massachusetts librarians in regard to the new system of discounts, and Mr Gifford was authorized to act for the committee. He thereupon sent a communication to the association covering the following points:

The Massachusetts Library club, representing about 400 librarians, appointed at its last meeting a committee to investigate the subject of book prices under the present net system. The committee has had an informal conference with some of the Boston publishers, and, at their suggestion, has decided to submit a statement for the consideration of the Publishers' association.

It was understood that the adoption of the net system as a means of helping the booksellers would cause the libraries to pay a few cents more than before for each new book published at a net price. It is for the interest of the libraries that the booksellers be not driven out of business; and, accordingly, the committee has thus far found that the new system has received little adverse criticism from librarians in so far as it seemed likely to afford the booksellers a chance to obtain a fair profit.

But coincident with the adoption of the net system an unexpected advance has been made in the cost of various books and series. The following list, prepared by a member of the Massachusetts Library club, shows in 18 different instances an increased cost to libraries varying from 12 to 36 per cent, and averaging 24 per cent. The books which are not in series are compared with publications by the same authors, which are similar in style and binding:

The cost of books to libraries

Under the net and 10 per cent discount system, as indicated by comparison of the prices of past and current issues of a few well-known series, and of recent publications similar in style and binding to previous works by the same authors:

SERIES	Former list price	Former cost to libraries	Present net price	Present cost to libraries	Increased cost to libraries
American historic towns (Putnam)	\$3.50	\$2.34	\$3.00	\$2.70	15%
American men of energy (Putnam)	1.50	1.00	1.35	1.22	22%
Appleton's Library of useful stories .....	.40	.27	.35	.32	18%
Bates, Talks on writing English (Houghton)	1.50	1.00	1.30	1.17	17%
Beacon biographies (Small, Maynard) .....	.75	.50	.75	.68	36%
Birrell, Essays and addresses (Scribner)	1.00	.67	1.00	.90	34%
Dames and daughters of Colonial days (Dodd) ..	1.50	1.00	1.35	1.22	22%
Great commanders' series (Appleton)	1.50	1.00	1.50	1.35	35%
G. A. Henty, Various works (Scribner)	1.50	1.00	1.25	1.13	13%
Heroes of the Nations (Putnam)	1.50	1.00	1.35	1.22	22%
Lanciani, New tales of Old Rome (Houghton) ..	6.00	4.00	5.00	4.50	12%
Macmillan's Handbooks of English literature ..	1.00	.67	.90	.81	20%
New Testament Handbooks (Macmillan) .....	.75	.50	.75	.68	36%
Periods of European literature (Scribner)	1.50	1.00	1.50	1.35	35%
Riverside Art series (Houghton) .....	.75	.50	.75	.68	36%
Riverside Biographical series (Houghton) .....	.75	.50	.65	.59	18%
Seton-Thompson, Lives of the hunted (Scribner) ..	2.00	1.34	1.75	1.58	17%
Story of the Nations (Putnam)	1.50	1.00	1.35*	1.22	22%
Average increase of cost to libraries					24%

Instances of an advance in price, where comparison may readily be made with books in the same series, make it at least supposable that a price higher than would have been the case under the old conditions has been placed on other books where no such close comparison can be had. The books cited in the foregoing list are widely bought by public libraries, and are perhaps even more necessary to the libraries with small incomes than to the larger institutions. The publishers of some of these books say that the advance would have been made under any circumstances; but since the higher prices followed so closely the adoption of the net system, it is not unfair to assume that they bear some relation to it.

The increased cost of books during the fall publishing season was sufficient to cause many libraries to view with much solicitude the possible extension of a system of publishing which has already resulted in a decided curtailment of their purchasing power. For this reason the committee of the Massachusetts Library club respectfully requests that the Publishers' association will consider the possibility of adopting a system of publishing, either by changing

the discount allowed to libraries or by readjusting the scale of prices, so that the net cost of books to libraries may show an increase no greater than is demanded by the fair treatment of the other interests concerned.

Librarians will await with interest the outcome of the efforts to adjust prices so that they shall bear less heavily upon the small libraries.

"The Gentleman Player" wearing "The Red Badge of Courage" took "A Trip to the Moon" where he found the "Eccentricities of Genius" much the same as they are here. "The Choir Invisible" on "Red Rock" sang "The Songs of Two." "The Prisoners of Hope" found "Red Blood and Blue," "What all the World is Seeking," on "The Trail of the Sandhill Stag." "The Master Christian" went "Sailing Alone Around the World" to find "Via Crucis." He had "A Fisherman's Luck" and won "The Love of an Uncrowned Queen" and "A Princess of Thule" "Under the Deodars" "The Head of a Hundred" got "Wounds in the Rain," while "The Forest Lovers," "Elenor" and "Monsieur Beaucaire," went down "The Lane That Has No Turning."

Library Notes

Melvil Dewey, director New York State library school

023.5 Understudies—There are two chief reasons why the New York State library more than any other needs an organization which contemplates the frequent occurrence of vacancies. New York was the first state to establish a distinct, fully organized department in charge of the interests of its public libraries. We have now over 1000 under our supervision, and our system of lending books throughout the state, traveling libraries and pictures, inspection, reports, and constant correspondence, brings us into most intimate relations with a great number of libraries. The result is an unusual demand on us for librarians or assistants needed each year in a number of these libraries.

An even greater reason is the existence here of the first library school in the world, which has already filled 791 different library positions in nearly 40 different states and foreign countries. The reputation of the training given in this school is such that in many cases trustees have begun their canvass for a librarian by declaring they would elect no one who had not been trained in this school. In most cases they much prefer to elect to a new position one who has not only had the training of the school, but has had one to five years' experience on our staff still in daily contact with the faculty. The result is that more calls are made to members of our staff to take better positions and higher salaries elsewhere many times over than falls to the lot of most large libraries. These frequent changes largely increase our own labor. When an assistant has worked successfully for several years at the head of any division or section, he requires vastly less supervision than a new man of equal ability who has to learn all the details afresh. Notwithstanding this fact no one questions for a moment that the greatest service is rendered to the libraries of the state by maintaining the present system by which the staff of the state library is its

training school, constantly sending out people competent to undertake important library work for themselves. Our only protection is that we pay much lower salaries because of the extra labor thrown on us by these frequent changes, and by the indirect expense of giving this training, and because those who expect to qualify themselves for higher salaries by this period of apprenticeship with us are willing to accept much lower salaries because of the unusual opportunities offered.

It is therefore desirable in each of our divisions and sections, where under other circumstances we could get on very well with one head, to have an understudy who should act as a lieutenant, taking entire charge during vacations or other absences of the head, and steadily qualifying for the first position as soon as a vacancy occurs by the call of his immediate superior to a higher position. In this way we establish a system something like that of the army or navy, for we get the best results as well as conform to the spirit of the civil service law in depending on promotions from our own staff for filling the higher positions.

025.5 Uncataloged books—We have adopted the plan of putting, without cataloging, extra copies of our own and other publications, which we can get without cost, on an open shelf in the reading-room for constant consultation. Of course the regular volume is in its place on the shelves and in the catalog, but we take an extra copy or two, if use warrants, paste our label on the outside, and simply put it on the shelves so that people can pick it up and refer to it without going to the catalog. If it is lost we get another. When the next volume comes out this is thrown into the duplicates. In short we treat it exactly as most libraries do their own printed catalogs if they have them: put enough copies to supply the demand into use, cataloging only one for the library and use the rest as we do stationary or other office conveniences.

028.6 Catalog notes in books—We are be-

ginning to realize the immense practical importance of evaluation or judicious notes appended to book titles in our catalogs as a guide to readers in selecting the book best adapted to their needs. The importance of a similar note in the book itself has not yet been properly recognized. If printed on a slip that could be tipped inside the cover these notes would have the greatest practical value to readers who had access to the volumes, specially in the many libraries having open shelves. These slips might very well include not only the brief note, to which because of space the catalog is limited, but any hint, extract, or other compact statement that would help readers to understand better the scope of the book, or would make one who glanced over the note feel more inclined to read the volume. Of course there would be danger that the principle would be used by publishers for mere wholesale laudation, but if the A. L. A. publishing board, or some other trustworthy authority, would prepare notes known to be uncolored by commercial interests, a great service could be rendered to readers at trifling cost.

028.8 Should librarians give commendation of books?—One of the first duties of a competent librarian is to know which books are best and why, and to make that knowledge as widely available as possible to the public. It is therefore both a duty and privilege to help those without his opportunities to select the best book, whether it is to be borrowed or bought. Now and then, as in every profession, some unworthy member subjects his associates to criticism because he may have been influenced to give undeserved commendation because of complimentary copies or other considerations. In face of such a discreditable instance, it is sometimes hastily said that the librarian should not use his official position to recommend any publisher's books lest he be put on the plane of the teacher or school officer who uses his influence to help the interests of some schoolbook publisher. But on second thought, it must be evident to every-

one that the very purpose of a reference librarian is to tell, without commercial influence of any kind, the merits and faults of books and editions, and that he owes it to inquirers to tell them frankly, when he understands their need, which it is best to buy.

028.8 Additions to books—Here and there a librarian has appreciated his duty to add in frequent cases to the book as it comes from the publisher. The prevailing impression, however, is that this is not part of the librarian's work. If, however, he has a letter, clipping, or valuable note bearing directly on a book, he can tip it inside the cover so that every reader in the future shall have the benefit of it. This can be easily removed if later or better information is obtained; but the annotation of the book is quite as valuable as the annotation of the catalog, which is coming to be more and more appreciated as of the greatest practical service to readers. We have for many years had a little rubber stamp saying, in fine type, Officially corrected, so that printer's or other errors liable to mislead readers can be corrected and marked, to show that it has been done on full consideration by competent librarians, and not hastily by some reader, who perhaps thought himself a better authority than he really was. No one would suggest that it was the function of the librarian to correct wrong opinions, bad grammar, or poor style, but if the author has fallen distinctly into error, or the types have made him say something different from what he intended, the fact when established should lead to an official correction. These questions should be decided by the proper rule, that it is the function of the librarian to make the books under his charge as useful as possible to the public, and no one will question that the addition of valuable notes or the correction of obvious errors does thus increase usefulness.

The first book was printed in England November 18, 1477, by Caxton, and was Dietes and Sayengis of the Philosophers. A copy is worth today £1500.

Fiction Course in the Pratt Institute Library School

Realizing the need for a wider knowledge of fiction in library work than the average student possesses, it was determined some four or five years ago to devote some time to a systematic study of novelists, and a course was planned in which the authors of continental Europe, the minor writers of promise writing in the mother tongue, and fiction of the lower grades, are studied from the point of view of the kind of work the authors have done, the qualities in their work that produce their popularity, the kind of people to whom they appeal, and the use that can be made of the novels by the library. In connection with this course a problem was recently assigned, the results of which have proved of some interest. It was the construction of a list of authors that would connect in a gradually rising scale an assigned author of the lower rank with some author of standard fiction, the terminal to be selected by the student. The authors selected represented several distinct kinds of fiction, as the Duchess treating of social life; emotional novelists, Rhoda Broughton, for example; sentimental and commonplace writers, E. P. Roe and Mrs Holmes; the sensational, Florence Marryat; the mystical and lurid, Marie Corelli. The resulting lists were by no means ideally perfect; they show limitations of reading in many cases, and often errors in judgment; still, the exercise has been a valuable one in stimulating thought, and while they understand that no one list could probably be followed in a given case, yet it has accustomed the students to the idea of associating together authors of a kind, but of varying degrees of excellence. The lists have proved not without interest and value. Among them was one based on Marie Corelli, dividing her work into the psychical novel and the psychological novel. The list, in the first instance, started with the Romance of two worlds, followed by Bulwer-Lytton's Zanon, About's Man with the broken

ear, Crawford's Mr Isaacs, Mitchell's Amos Judd, Kipling's Brushwood boy, Du Maurier's Peter Ibbetson. The second list was as follows: Corelli, Sorrows of Satan, Stevenson, Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, Parker, Right of way, Dickens, Tale of two cities, Eliot, Romola, Hawthorne, Scarlet letter, Hardy, Tess of the D'Urbervilles, Hugo, Les Misérables.

Another worked up a list of novels of social life, beginning with the Duchess, followed by Mrs Burnett's earlier stories, Mrs Walford's Baby's grandmother, Mr Smith's Troublesome daughters; Mrs Oliphant's Sir Tom, The cuckoo in the nest, then, Chronicles of Carlingford; William E. Norris's No new thing, Heaps of money, Matrimony; Trollope's Dr Thorne, Small house at Allingham, and the Belton estate; Bulwer's Kenelm Chillingly, My novel; Thackeray.

From E. P. Roe a double chain was made by one student: E. P. Roe, Edna Lyall, Mrs Whitney, Miss Montrésor, George Macdonald, Margaret Deland, Mrs Humphrey Ward, George Eliot; and taking Roe's love of nature as the thread, she followed Nature's serial story with Roberts' Forge in the forest, James Lane Allen's Kentucky cardinal, Dr Van Dyke's Fisherman's luck and Little rivers; these leading up to Burroughs and Thoreau.

Still another, in the form of a genealogical tree, leads from Mary J. Holmes through E. P. Roe and Edna Lyall, to a point where the tree branched in three directions, one leading through Mrs Barr's historical stories, Miss Mulbach, Charles Kingsley (with a twig from Kingsley running up through S. W. Mitchell to Kipling and Stevenson), Wallace, Bulwer-Lytton, to the best historical writers, Scott, Dumas, and Hugo. Another branch ascended through Miss Mulock, Maxwell Grey, Margaret Deland, and Quiller-Couch, to Mrs Ward, George Meredith, Hawthorne, then to George Eliot and Hugo's Les Misérables, novels of character development all; while a third

branch took the social novel and led through Jessie Fothergill, Wiggin, Burnett, Goldsmith (quite a gap apparently, but one which the compiler had found by experience could be bridged) to Jane Austen, Dickens, and Thackeray. One of the best is, I fear, too long for the confines of this paper. It started with Mrs Holmes and, supposing four typical readers whose mentality was carefully analyzed, led by four separate paths very carefully graded to Thackeray, Scott, Hawthorne, and to a group of modern writers, as Hopkinson-Smith, and Mary Hartwell Catherwood.

It is one of the facts of our experience that while people will read fiction—and they are probably wiser in their instinct for it than we are if we try to turn them away from it—many people really do want to read better things, would be glad to if they were helped to a knowledge of them, and I am sure if assistants would try for themselves to make lists of this sort, grouping authors of a kind and of increasing merit, that they would find the result directly beneficial to themselves and indirectly (for I should not advise a library to publish such lists) of assistance to the library's public. JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE.

The arrangement of the library is apt to depend on the sex of its presiding spirit. A man, as a rule, likes to see his precious volumes mounting in glorious rows as near the ceiling as proper care of them will permit. And how beautiful are those majestic ranks! Lovely woman, on the contrary, wants her books near at hand, prettily arranged in low cases, whose tops, only shoulder high, gleam with bric-a-brac and the photographs of acquaintances and celebrities. Prof. Lanciani, by the way, tells us that the Romans shared this feminine taste. In one of his discoveries, a genuine Roman library of the fourth century, the books were ranged in low cases, while above them were placed cameos and busts of famous authors.—*New York Tribune*.

Mutual Help Between Libraries

The 1901 meeting of the Library association of New York state emphasized the possibility and desirability of mutual help. Since the meeting the officers of the association have had opportunity to observe some valuable work which has been done in the state; for example, the librarian of the Ilion Public library has prepared for publication a very excellent list of references for Sunday-school workers; the Webster Free library has held an exhibit of North American Indian curiosities, which the New York Sun noticed at length.

The Ilion list would be almost, if not quite, as useful elsewhere as in Ilion, and the Sun article has much that might be suggestive to other libraries.

Unquestionably, numbers of other individual lines of activity are at work in all parts of the state which the officers of the association have not seen, and which are generally unknown.

The officers of the association believe it to be possible and desirable to start a sort of clearing house, where information of all these lines of individual effort will be gathered, and from whence the information so gathered can be again distributed to other libraries, which could appropriately gain suggestion for adaptation to their own needs.

The officers of the association, therefore, ask every librarian throughout the state to send to the president, Mary Emogene Hazeltine, James Prendergast free library, Jamestown, N. Y., every little list that they publish, every item of library news that is published in local papers, short accounts of any experiments that they may make throughout the year. This request is not made for Miss Hazeltine's benefit, but that she may have opportunity to collect and compare ideas of library progress to redistribute for intelligence throughout the state. No one library originates all the bright and useful ideas.

If every librarian in the state will respond, the officers of the association believe that the body of material brought

together, and the power of inspiration concentrated, may mean much to the library intelligence and progress of New York state. THERESA ELMENDORF, Sec'y New York Library Association.

A. L. A. Meeting for 1902

The 1902 meeting of the A. L. A. will be held June 14-20 at Boston and Magnolia, Mass. Visitors will be cordially welcomed Saturday, June 14, at the libraries in Boston, Cambridge and vicinity, and an opportunity afforded to visit adjacent points of historic interest.

At Magnolia on Monday, June 16, the Council will meet, according to the constitution, and on Tuesday, June 17, in the morning, will be held the first business session of the conference. The business sessions will probably be adjourned on Friday evening, June 20, and on Saturday members will start on such post conference trips as may be later arranged.

Very reasonable rates have been secured at the Magnolia hotels, and the three largest, the Oceanside, the New Magnolia, and the Hesperus, have been selected as headquarters. Magnolia is 27 miles from Boston, and is one of the most beautiful seashore resorts in the east.

N. E. A. Meeting for 1902

The educational forces of Minneapolis, as well as the citizens of the city, fully appreciate the honor of entertaining the National educational association next July, and are now fully organized for the work incident thereto.

Committees from the principal organizations of the city have been formed, and the work of caring for and entertaining the association as a body and in sections is rapidly taking form.

The Library department is rapidly growing in favor and influence in the association, and efforts are being made to make its meetings this year the best that have been held. Local arrangements for its welfare are in charge of a committee, of which Miss Countryman is chairman, and this insures success in that line.

Library Post

The following bill shows what is being hoped for on the matter of free delivery for library books. It is a copy of the bill introduced by Senator Lodge:

57TH CONGRESS,
1ST SESSION **S. 702.**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

DECEMBER 5, 1901.

Mr. LODGE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Library.

A BILL

To establish a library post.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, subject to such regulations as the Postmaster-General may from time to time determine, books and other printed matter belonging to and passing from and to any of the libraries enumerated below, be and hereby are admitted to carriage by the mail at one cent per pound or fraction thereof, namely:

Public libraries maintained wholly or in part by taxation by towns, cities, States, or other political units, or by the United States;

School libraries supported by taxation or having tax exemption, belonging to educational institutions of all grades;

Society or social libraries having entire or partial tax exemption, or other public privilege, maintained by endowments or fees, or from both sources, by religious, literary, professional, trade, industrial, or library associations.

Sec. 2. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

This is a measure worthy the assistance of the government, and every librarian should urge its passage. A word from a constituent has more weight with the ordinary member of congress than "a word from the doctors." At the same time the leading librarians and educators of the country are bringing the need of cheap or free rural delivery of books from public libraries to the attention of the president, the post-office department, and of congress. Traveling libraries, good as they are, do not supply the need that this is intended to meet. The greatest drawback to country life would be removed if its people could have free access to all the books they wished free or at a trifling cost.

Library Schools

Carnegie Library of Pittsburg

Training school for children's libraries.

The autumn term of the training school began September 30 and closed December 21. During the first week of the term preliminary talks were given on library work in general, and visits were made to the branch libraries. October 6 saw the school working on a regular schedule, each student of the first year class and each special student being assigned to one of the six children's rooms for practical or apprentice work. At the end of eight weeks the students were transferred from one children's room to another, and similar transfers will be made at intervals of eight weeks throughout the year. Members of the senior class, however, having had this varied experience, are scheduled to one branch children's room for the year. Each student is also assigned to a home library group, which she visits weekly, and she spends one afternoon a week in work for or in the city schools. In this way each student is given an opportunity to work among children of all classes.

Regular morning lectures have been given by members of the library staff on order department routine, classification, civic education, children's literature, Froebel's Mother play, government of children's rooms, and preparation for the story hour. The students have also attended a number of outside lectures, including the University extension lectures of Prof. R. G. Moulton, on Stories as a mode of thinking, and two lectures by Susan E. Blow, author of Symbolic education, on The root of deception and how to uproot it, and, The awakening of the ideal. Helpful lectures were given specially for the students by Miss Allison, supervisor of kindergartens in Pittsburg and Allegheny, on How to tell stories to children, and Miss Tappan, of the faculty of the Pittsburg and Allegheny Kindergarten college, on Psychology as an aid in the selection of children's books.

The following is a list of the students for 1901-1902:

Senior class

Jessie M. Carson, Pittsburg, Pa. Appointed in July, 1901, assistant in charge of children's room, Hazelwood branch, Carnegie library of Pittsburg.

Helen Underwood Prince, Kent, Ohio. Oberlin, 1897-'98.

Lilian Rodé, Pittsburg, Pa.

Junior class

Edna May Cullis, Oil City, Pa.

Cora K. Dunnells, Pittsburg, Pa.

Alice Gordon Goddard, Zanesville, Ohio. Apprentice in Utica (N. Y.) public library, September-May, 1899.

Josephine Louise Gutman, Pittsburg, Pa.

Florence Janney Heaton, Hamilton, Va., A. B. Woman's college of Baltimore, 1901.

Maria Louise Kennard, Pittsburg, Pa.

Annabelle Porter, Kent, Ohio.

Hannah Stuart, Springfield, Ill.

Special students

Elva Sophronia Smith, South Pasadena, Cal. Los Angeles public library training class, 1899.

Marie Martin Smith, Philadelphia, Pa. New York State library school, 1899-1900. General assistant (including work in children's room) in Buffalo public library, 1900-1901.

Drexel

On January 9 the school visited the new establishment of J. B. Lippincott & Co., where they saw to great advantage the whole process of book-making, from the setting of the type on the linotype machine to the final gilding and finishing of the covers. An interesting hour was also spent in the little bindery of Mary H. Upton, where the class had the opportunity of seeing some specimens of fine binding done by Miss Upton, under the instruction of Cobden Sanderson of London.

Emma C. Wells, class of '98, is organizing the library of the Tuskegee Normal and industrial institute.

Mary Krichbaum, class of 1901, is organizing the new public library at Huntington, W. Va.

Illinois

The library of the university has been made a depository for the cards issued by the Library of congress. The first consignments have been received and the cards are now being arranged.

The arrangement is to be by broad subjects, and they will be placed in the delivery room, where it is expected they will be found of great assistance, not only to the library students, but to the entire university.

The course in bibliography is being made stronger and more attractive this year than ever before. Lectures with select suggestive bibliographies are given by professors in the university.

The order of the classes in the Dewey decimal classification is followed, except where a different grouping results in better proportions. Personal examination of all important available books is insisted upon, and tests are made by the lecturer or the director as a rounding out of each subject.

During the semester just closed lectures have been given as follows: On the bibliography of philosophy by Dr A. H. Daniels; religion, Rev. J. H. Wilkinson of Champaign; economics and history, by Dr D. E. Spencer; Romanic languages and literature, by Prof. G. D. Fairfield; English history, by Dr H. E. Schoolcraft, and Greek and Roman history, by Prof. Alvord, who will also take up the subject of mediæval and modern history. These will be followed by Dr L. A. Rhoades and Dr D. K. Dodge, who will cover the field of literature. Lectures on other subjects will also be arranged for.

New York

A meeting of the o20 club was held on the evening of December 7, B. A. Whittemore (1902) presiding. The central feature of the program was a debate on the timely question: Resolved, That the Booklover's library is antagonistic to the best interest of the public

library. The affirmative, Ella R. Selis² berg (1903) and Wm. F. Yust (1901), maintained that the Booklover's library was undemocratic, that it fostered the exclusive reading of fiction, and that by supplying the needs of wealthy citizens it made them less willing to support the public library. On the other side, Alice M. Burnham (1902) and Malcolm G. Wyer (1903) claimed that the Booklover's library relieved the pressure upon the public library to supply the novel of the hour, thus enabling it to buy books of more permanent value, and that the methods of the public library would be improved by the competition. Greater cleanliness of books, more attractive subject reference lists, and better descriptive booknotes, were suggested as probable improvements.

Florence B. Whittier (1902) read an interesting paper on Roman libraries and W. F. Yust summarized library legislation for 1901. The Library glee club, which includes five members of the staff and seven of the school, made its first appearance and was enthusiastically received.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

Pratt

Florence Russell, class of '96, has resigned from the reference department of the Pratt institute Free library, to take charge of the reference department of the Free public library at Trenton, N. J.

Grace A. Child, class of '97, now of the Hartford (Conn.) Public library staff, has been appointed librarian of the new library at Derby, Conn., recently presented by Col. Wood of Boston.

Ethel R. Noyes, class of 1901, has been appointed librarian of the West side branch of the University settlement library, New York.

On January 15 the library school had the pleasure of a visit from H. L. Elmendorf. Mr Elmendorf made an address to the class on the subject of Open shelves.

Miss Hazeltine of Jamestown will address the school February 7.

Summer school

The Wisconsin Free library commission takes pleasure in announcing that the eighth annual session of the Summer school for library training will be held in Madison, Wis., as a department of the summer session of the University of Wisconsin, during July and August, 1902.

The regular course will begin on Wednesday, July 2, and close on Friday, August 29. Students are requested to register on Tuesday, July 1.

The supplementary course will extend from Monday, July 7, through Friday, August 1. Registration will take place on Saturday, July 5.

The document course will begin on Wednesday, August 6, and close Wednesday, August 27.

Reading in United States

It was interesting to learn at a recent library lecture that the United States leads the world in the matter of circulating literature. England, strange as it may seem, comes fourth in the list, while Italy, also strangely, stands second. All the countries of the old world, France and Germany notably, have, of course, collections of books far exceeding anything both in point of quality and quantity that we have over here. But abroad the richest collection is a collection, and nothing more; it is little else than so much literary dead wood, lying idle on its shelves, as it does, and neither fructifying nor illuminating. In the United States the poorest handful of books is turned to account many times over. It is put in circulation until thousands have the opportunity to profit by it. The greatest of masterpieces never yet did anybody any good by standing idle on a shelf. Give the most unpretentious volume the chance, and it cannot fail to quicken thought. This is the secret the United States has learned, and that is why its few books do 20 times the good of the old world's many books.—*New York Correspondent.*

Library Meetings

California—The annual meeting of the Library association of California was held on Friday evening, January 17. Following the established custom the meeting was preceded by a dinner at the California hotel, at which there were 27 persons, including members and their guests, present.

The following officers for the ensuing year were elected: President, Charles S. Greene, Oakland Public library; vice-president, Mary A. Walker, San Diego Public library; treasurer, F. B. Graves, Alameda Public library; secretary, R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission st., San Francisco. Resolutions of respect to the memory of C. K. Rosenberg, one of the oldest members of the association, who died January 10, were passed and spread on the minutes. Prof. Irving Stringham, of the University of California, spoke on How books should be served up, and John McNaught of the San Francisco Call, spoke on the Library of the future. Remarks were made by B. H. Pendleton, trustee of the Oakland Public library, Mr Rowell, Mr Clark, Mr Teggart, and others. The president then introduced a photographer who took a flash-light view of all present.

Chicago—Regular meeting was held January 9, at Handel hall, Pres. Josephson in the chair.

Harriet E. Hasder, John Crerar library, and Estelle Luttrell, University of Chicago library, were elected to membership.

C. B. Roden was appointed a member of the committee on future work vice H. W. Gates resigned.

The sympathy and best wishes of the club were extended to A. H. Hopkins, who is suffering from a sorely wrenched ankle.

Announcement of the Boston-Magnolia conference of the A. L. A. was made.

Letters from Dr Wire, Mrs Elmen-dorf, Miss Sharp, Mr Strohm, and other ex members of the club, were received.

Formal program in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the first regu-

lar meeting of the club, which was held Jan. 8, 1892:

Address: The Chicago Library club; its founding and early history. Mrs Zella Allen Dixon, University of Chicago.

Address: The Chicago Library club; its present and future. Carl B. Roden, Chicago Public library.

Reminiscences by members.

An informal social, with music, readings and refreshments, followed, and everyone present seemed to have an enjoyable time.

Mrs Dixon said in part: We have come here tonight to celebrate the tenth birthday anniversary of the Chicago library club. I am to give you a very brief outline of the circumstances that formed the environment of the birth and early infancy of this vigorous young child. A printed circular, setting forth the desirability of a city club composed of those who were interested in library matters, such a club to have for its avowed object coöperation and mutual acquaintance, to the end that the usefulness of all Chicago libraries should be greatly increased, was given a wide distribution. On Dec. 17, 1891, 18 librarians met at the Newberry library to effect an organization. After an informal discussion the meeting adopted a constitution and elected its officers, making Dr Wm. F. Poole its first president. The advent of the club was at a time of precious opportunity, when the library history of Chicago was turning its brightest pages. The Newberry was bringing into the city rich collections of rare and out-of-print books; the Chicago Public had just accepted the plans of its new building; the University of Chicago had just moved its library from its temporary quarters at Morgan Park to the Chicago campus; Armour institute, the John Crerar and the Evanston Public were beginning to be something more than a rumor. At just this point in the library history of Chicago came the library club. This environment was reflected in the meetings themselves. At the first meeting at the Newberry we were told of and shown the recently acquired Probasco collection. The second meeting was at the Chicago Public,

and was devoted to a discussion of the plans of the new building. During its early history the club had no home, no regular place of meeting. It was customary to accept an invitation from one of the libraries represented in the club to meet with it. This plan had both advantages and disadvantages. It was a good thing to have the members visit in turn each of the libraries, and indirectly it afforded exercise and the broadening effect of travel to have the club meet one month at Pullman, the next at Oak Park, then Morgan Park, Evanston, South Park, and the North side. But there were also the trials and sufferings of the executive committee, the intense anticipation as to where the next meeting was to be held, the torture of despair as the days passed and no invitation was received. When one did come the weather man had to be considered. An accepted invitation to the University of Chicago was more than once accompanied by the worst blizzard of the season. And yet the club grew and prospered. During its first year the club undertook to start an Illinois State library association, but the enthusiasm seemed to be confined to Chicago, for the effort failed. It was not until 1896 that the Chicago Library club succeeded in bringing into existence the State association. During the World's fair the club became the local committee for the entertainment of the visiting A. L. A. members. In 1894 the club suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Dr Poole. In 1895 the club published its first manual, giving names and addresses of the libraries of Chicago and vicinity and also a short historical and descriptive account of each. Thus it was that the Chicago Library club was born into the kingdom, and has made for itself a place beside those vitalizing forces that move the world forward.

Mr Roden said in part: We have lived 10 years; we have elected 10 executive committees, no two of which have ever interpreted their duties alike, but all of which, with varying views, have succeeded in the ultimate object of keep-

ing the club alive, and interest in it at least above the freezing point. Our membership is large, and though we are, broadly speaking, all engaged in the same occupation, that occupation is still too much a matter of individual opinion rather than of scientific principles, and its various departments are too sharply set off and specialized to permit their being treated in a manner uniformly interesting to all in such an association. Still we say safely that, by their diversity, these meetings must, at some time, have provided something of use for each one. Meanwhile, through the wisdom of one of our presidents in selecting the chairman of a committee, and the unaltering devotion of that chairman to an endless task, the name of the Chicago Library club appears upon the title-page of a most creditable publication, which in itself is ample reason for the club's existence, and its justification for a full measure of pride in itself, and, more than that, a plain signpost toward a useful thing.

We have a pleasant organization, affording a much needed point of contact for a number of busy people, from many places, with many interests, and many ways of doing the same thing; we have a club which stands before the world as the representative of Chicago's interest in the library field, and the extension of that field within the city, during the period of our corporate existence, has been truly wonderful; we have a membership embracing a very large percentage of those engaged in library work within the limits of our jurisdiction. But I think, that beside the present, of which we need not be ashamed, we have a future, and a wide field before us. It remains for us to advance and to occupy that field. This is the age of coöperation, of consolidation, and this is preëminently true in the library field, for the very potent reason that librarians being engaged in the common task of supplying and making accessible not knowledge, perhaps, but the road to knowledge, and the vehicles best adapted to the pursuit of it, and having, after all, but one great

bulk of material, namely, the printed book, to work with, can be of such inestimable assistance one to another if they will but come together and reach a full and free understanding of their respective needs. This is being done at the present moment. The day of the enormous duplication and waste of endeavor involved in the independent efforts of libraries is gradually sinking in the west; out of the east comes the new light, breaking clear and strong, heralding the dawn of a brighter era. Wherever any two or three are gathered together who feel within them the faintest throb of the library spirit, which is indeed no more than the accomplishment of the greatest good to the greatest number, there the new gospel must and will be preached and practiced.

Here in Chicago we have made a good beginning. Our union list of periodicals is a much needed and much appreciated library tool, but there are many besides which might be produced, of equal value. I believe that a system of committees, each one charged with some task, the accomplishment of which shall be of common benefit, would tend to bind the club together a little more closely, and stimulate not only the interest, but also the pride of members in it. I would not advocate the restriction of such tasks to mere library aids, lists, and hand-books, and I would be very strongly opposed to the undertaking of any purely bibliographical labors, but I would follow the spirit of coöperation into fresh fields and pastures new; even the fields of municipal improvement, of library extension, and of active participation in the various plans for civic betterment which are springing up so plentifully.

Something of this kind is now, nominally at least, being done. We have a committee charged with the duty of compiling accurate statistics of the libraries of the city and county; we have another committee on the library at the Cook county jail; we have a representative on the school extension committee created by a number of local societies. This is the day of the strenuous

life; let this club join the procession; let it cease to be a mere gathering place, rather let it become the outward and visible sign of the inward and spiritual grace which moves in the library world, that world in which the limits of the undiscovered regions are so rapidly receding. Let it take the message of the library into the market place and the forum, calling attention in unmistakable tones to the new force in the civic problem, the force which may, perhaps, be destined to become the chief factor in its solution.

CHESLEY R. PERRY, Sec'y.

District of Columbia—Regular monthly meeting of the Library association was held Thursday evening, Dec. 12, 1901, at the Columbus University. There were 100 members present. The program consisted of an address by Herbert Putnam on the Distribution of printed catalog cards by the Library of congress.

Mr Putnam prefaced his address with a brief résumé of the history of coöperative cataloging in this country. About 1850, Mr Jewett, of the Smithsonian institution, advocated a plan for printing cataloging entries. With the organization of the American Library Association in 1876 the subject was again taken up, and the yearly discussions which followed culminated in 1899 at the Montreal conference in a vote to establish an office for the purpose of printing and distributing catalog cards. Before this office was permanently established, however, the Library of congress came forward and offered to relieve the association of the work.

Mr Putnam then told of the difficulties in commencing the work. The differences of opinion of catalog experts in regard to the catalog rules to be adopted resulted in a compromise which, of course, was not altogether satisfactory to anyone. The various sizes of cards used was also a troublesome question, but after a thorough canvass it was found that the 3x5 inch card was most universally used. In this connection he spoke of his many visits to li-

brary associations throughout the country to get their opinion and to outline the plan and the scope of the work.

In explaining the present status of the distribution of the cards he used as a basis the two circulars issued by the library. The library has not as yet adequate facilities for combining accuracy of work, promptness of delivery, and the largest area of literature, but it is ultimately hoped that they will be provided so that the success of the work will be assured.

In conclusion he showed how the libraries of Washington could coöperate in this work, and thereby the benefit to them and to the Library of congress would be mutual.

The annual election of officers which followed resulted in the election of Thomas Clark, president; Henderson Presnell and W. D. Johnson, vice-presidents; Hugh Williams, secretary; F. E. Woodward, treasurer; Josephine Clark, M. A. Gilkey, and C. K. Jones, executive committee.

HUGH WILLIAMS, Sec'y.

Illinois—The next annual meeting of the Illinois Library association will be held at Quincy, Ill., toward the last of April. The date has been changed, though not definitely settled, on account of the proverbial bad weather on Washington's birthday. Definite announcements and program will be sent out shortly.

Massachusetts—On Jan. 14, 1902, members of the Massachusetts Library club, Cape Cod, and Bay Path clubs, met together for the first time in the new year in the lecture hall of the English high school at Worcester.

The meeting was called to order by the president, H. C. Wellman, of Brookline Public library, at eleven o'clock, and members of the various special committees were requested to report on the work done by each.

Mr Gifford, of the Cambridge Public library, and the special committee to inquire into the net book price system, said there was but little to report; there had however, been an unofficial meeting of

the principal Boston publishers in the Boston Public library a few weeks ago, at which Mr McIntyre, of Little & Brown, had advised the committee to present their views for consideration to the Publishers' association of New York, by which all publishers were bound. Accordingly a letter embodying some statistics on the subject had been mailed to Mr Emery, of the New York Publishers' association, which letter had arrived too late for their last meeting, but had been acknowledged with a statement that the matter would come up at the next session. Mr Gifford said that the whole outcome of the net price system was at present in the dark, the publishers themselves being no better off than the librarians as to its ultimate effect and result, and that the committee wished it to be understood that the librarians only wished for absolutely fair treatment. The change in price varying from 12 per cent to 36 per cent made an increased cost to the libraries of 24 per cent. All they could do now was to await the action of the Publishers' association. S. S. Green moved that this committee be constituted a standing committee to consider the relations between libraries, publishers, and booksellers. Mr Nutting seconded the motion, which was carried nem con. The secretary, Mr Nutting, then announced that Mr Brayley of the Public library bulletin and the Library press had offered to print, free of charge, any lists or notices of fiction that the club might supply, which lists he would issue weekly as a supplement to the Public library bulletin. Mr Nutting moved that the offer be accepted and a committee appointed to cooperate with Mr Brayley. S. L. Whitney seconded the motion, in which very little interest appeared to be aroused. Mr Jones of Salem then announced that the A. L. A. annual conference would be held in Magnolia, a beautiful seashore resort 27 miles from Boston, from June 14-20, the first day to be spent by delegates in visiting the Boston and Cambridge libraries. Magnolia possesses three fine hotels, and the time of year chosen was just at the beginning of the summer

season when everything was looking its best, the rates were reasonable, \$2.50 per day, two in a room, with double bed, and the local committee had arranged to have moonlight during the conference to further enhance the delights. He hoped arrangements would be made for members to attend without counting such attendance as part of their vacation, and urged all present to send part of their staff at least once during the sessions.

He said the meeting should be advertised on the programs of local club meetings, and instanced the New Hampshire Library club as having already done this on their program, urging all members to attend if possible.

Mr Tillinghast of Harvard university then drew attention to the forthcoming catalog of Massachusetts Public documents, which he said had been delayed in the press, but was printed and on the way. It was, he said, a list of all separate reports among the Massachusetts Public documents. With the title of each report is given an explanation and a history of the report with analyticals for special papers. The catalog is printed on one side only of the paper, which could therefore be cut up if desired. The A. L. A. publishing board had issued printed sets of cards of the regulation postal, or 33 size, for this work, consisting of about 286 cards, at a cost of \$1.75 the set.

The compilation of this catalog was the work of the Massachusetts Library club, the printing a contribution of the Massachusetts State library, which was prepared to issue copies gratis to all libraries in the state and to those outside desirous of obtaining them.

A short report of the work of the Cape Cod Library club was then made by one of its two delegates present. The club is only a year old, yet has a membership of 100; not many of the libraries in that district possess more than 1000 books, and most of the districts served are 45 miles apart.

The librarians have found the meetings most helpful, particularly the social

intercourse and discussions of mutual interest.

Miss Farrar of Springfield then read an interesting little account of the work of the library institutes of Western Massachusetts. She said their aim had been always to help the small libraries. The idea of these institutes was formed by Mr Fletcher after the North Adams meeting in 1900, where the question of interesting local communities was discussed. The first step undertaken was to interest the librarians and trustees; letters were sent to them asking them to try and attend the meetings. The first institute was held at Sunderland in April, 1901, at which there were two sessions, one held in the afternoon. At all times it is an understood thing that the speakers be entertained free of expense. A list of the best books had been compiled, annotated, and printed in pamphlet form for distribution by the coöperation of librarians, and the club has a report of the work of the libraries. Much interest was evinced by the librarians, who willingly did what they could; in one instance where it was a question of \$25 salary versus the purchase of new books, the salary went for the purchase of new books. The main issues were:

How to create enthusiasm.

How to reach and coöperate with the schools.

How to reach the farmers and those in outlying districts.

Correspondence was not satisfactory, personal work produced much better results, so in order to become better acquainted with their constituents a drive of 70 miles was taken which afforded most interesting experiences.

Copies of PUBLIC LIBRARIES had been distributed and found most helpful, and pictures were taken round, with burlap, to show how they could be used to brighten up a library room.

Miss Farrar said the work of the institutes had opened their eyes and enabled them to learn a great deal from the people from whom they received considerable assistance as well as tendering it.

Miss Tarbell, of the Bay Path Library club, opened a discussion on the relation of the state and local clubs by a thoughtful paper, considering the relations that existed and those that should exist, and the work the latter should do on their own account without the intervention of the state clubs.

She said some of the towns did not seem to feel the necessity of supporting their libraries, but thought in time larger appropriations would be made. Miss Chadler of Lancaster had inaugurated the Bay Path club one day only before Mr Fletcher started the Western Massachusetts Library club, neither having knowledge of the other, proving that the time was ripe for the inception of such organization.

Miss Medlicott of Springfield said she thought Mr Dana's remarks at the A. L. A. Waukesha conference were apposite, and proceeded by permission to read the report from the Proceedings of that meeting, 1901.

W. C. Lane of Harvard university library said he presumed the advantage of a local club was its closer connection with and knowledge of the community. He thought it would be well for the state club to send delegates free of expense to attend the meetings of the local clubs.

Mr Stockwell said he was sure such action would be greatly appreciated. Nina E. Browne said it had already been the intention of the club to do so. Mrs Jones said it would be well to advertise the meetings of the local and affiliated club meetings on the state club's program.

S. F. Whitney of Watertown said he was much interested in local clubs and the work of the institutes, but he would like to stir up the Massachusetts State library commission to do more work of a pronounced kind.

"Isn't it disgraceful," he said, "that libraries should have to do so much begging through the state. More should be done for the libraries. It is almost as difficult to get money for libraries as for foreign missions."

"Influence is necessary to get proper

appropriations. While schools receive adequate appropriations it is impossible to get more than one-tenth as much for libraries. Where \$100,000 was appropriated for the schools \$400,000 to \$500,000 was appropriated for the library, yet libraries are equally necessary for the welfare of the community. Libraries do not occupy the position they ought to." He would like to know what active work the State library commission was doing, and he hoped that library institutes would excite interest among the people.

S. S. Green, as the only member of the Massachusetts State library commission present, defended the work of that body, which had monthly meetings, and was busy all the time considering claims and doing thorough work, quietly, carefully, and unostentatiously.

How periodicals are illustrated

E. A. Gilman, for many years in the art department of the Youth's companion, then proceeded to explain how periodicals are illustrated. He had a large and interesting exhibit of pictures, proofs, and plates of all kinds to illustrate his lecture, which unfortunately had to be hurried owing to lack of time. He traced the history of illustration from the fourteenth century, when the picture was the artist's original of which no duplicate existed except as printed from it.

In those days the people saw and knew but little of pictures, whereas now it is an age of illustration, even the local junk dealer employs halftone reproductions on his advertisement cards.

The first pictures were made by reproductions of wood engraving; the artist drew the picture on the block of wood and handed it to the engraver, who used a tool shaped like a V, called the graver or burin.

The tool used by Albert Dürer was little more than the blade of a jack-knife. In a wood engraving everything was cut away except the surface touched by the pen, pencil, or brush, thus leaving the artist's work standing in relief, the block was then moistened

with ink and pressed on the surface of the paper. The first wood engraving was made about the year 1406, and for more than 450 years after illustrations were made by the same process. Early work was always in strong, bold line. Works of the old masters were always in outline, and shading had to be made, if required, by cutting between the lines.

About the close of the eighteenth century a new method was introduced by an Englishman named Thomas Bewick, who conceived the idea of allowing the artist to draw the picture with the requisite shading, then giving the block to the engraver who, previously but a copyist, now became a skilled workman. By cutting through the black lines with white ones he interpreted more nearly the artist's work. This new process was carried on till about 1860, when a Boston engraver allowed the artist to draw the picture any size he desired in shades; this he photographed and the copy was transferred to a block of wood specially prepared, which was then handed to the engraver who cut through the photograph, till in its place stood the lines in relief which printed black, leaving the rest of the picture white. This new method of 1860 caused a great peace in place of a great deal of difficulty, as the artist could no longer legitimately complain that the workman had spoiled his work, and it also gave the artist great freedom. Hitherto pictures had to be drawn the exact size of the block from which they were to be printed, whereas photographic process of reproduction obviated this restriction. The wood engraver had the original copy before him while at work, all of which was covered except a piece the size of a cent piece on which he was at work, which he compared from time to time with the whole picture to get it into right proportion.

This method of wood engraving is still used, though the more rapid modern methods are most in evidence.

The making of pictures preceded the use of type; the first were printed from blocks engraved carefully, and the letters engraved for the explanation of

the picture were used in other places afterwards, which brought about the use of type.

By the zinc process the picture is photographed onto a gelatine film covering a block; where the lines of the picture show they have been hardened by a chemical process, and the rest of the surface is eaten away by acid poured over it onto the unhardened portion. This acid does the work of the engraver and gives a protection to the line more accurately and rapidly. The line engravings in the best magazines are produced by this method, and most of the newspaper-work also. A picture that would take a wood engraver two or three days can now be made in 35 minutes at a cost of a few cents by this means.

In 1892 a new style of illustration came into vogue, known as the halftone process, and recognized by the fine dots in its composition.

By this process the picture is photographed through a fine screen, composed of 150 parallel lines to the inch diagonally across the plate; 22,500 dots to each square inch appear on the specially sensitized plate as a result of the light penetrating through the holes in the screen. These dots are chemically hardened, the plate is coated with rubber, and the picture soaked from the plate, and this film is fastened to a copper plate specially prepared, over which an acid is poured which eats away everything but the dots, which take up the ink. White lines are crossed with black lines, producing the gray or halftone appearance giving the name to the process, because the tones of the artist's picture have been reduced to half the depth of their original color owing to the fact that white lines have passed through the picture. There are ways of overcoming this effect but they are not entirely successful.

Halftone work killed the work of the wood engraver, but in 1894 a Mr Andrews of Boston employed the services of the ousted wood engraver to manipulate halftone plates, cutting away to get absolutely white and high lights,

and working up the plate to obtain the proper depth of the dark effects. Almost all halftones used are now worked up by the engraver. The process is being improved every day. Ordinary pictures are made from black and white drawings, because the tones are more correctly produced.

For ordinary magazine work a screen of 133 to 150 lines to the inch is used; for the higher grade the lines are from 150 to 160 lines to the inch, while newspaper work for daily paper it is 60.

For color reproductions a screen is put before the camera which rejects every color but the one desired; as many screens are used as there are colors to bring out, and in examining the plates it is interesting to note that there is more color in the original than the eye can detect unaided.

Yellow forms the base of all such work. Everything in colors can be photographed this way; every new issue of a magazine shows some attempt to produce color effect. The Christmas number of Harper's magazine was scanned and the pictures explained by Mr Gilman, who also showed a poster of Tom Grogan, showing how the color effect was produced by different plates for each color.

He explained that it was possible in very fine color work to overlap colors in order to produce shades and gradations of coloring. Lithographic work, he said, could not be used with type, whereas wood engraving and halftones could.

At the termination of this interesting lecture a vote of thanks to the local members for their hospitality was proposed by S. F. Whitney, seconded and carried unanimously by the members, who then adjourned at 1.35 p. m. for a much needed and nicely prepared lunch, after which they visited the Public library where they were hospitably received by S. S. Green, its indefatigable veteran librarian, and the American antiquarian society, where they were charmingly welcomed by its able custodian, Mr Barton, and also the Worcester county law library, presided over

by Dr G. E. Wire, who did the honors and guided departing members to cars for the depot.

Nebraska—At the recent meeting of the Nebraska Library association at Lincoln it was decided to hold the next meeting at Omaha. A luncheon was served by the Lincoln librarians at which a company of 30 assembled.

J. I. Wyer presided at the meeting. The president's address gave a brief review of the year's work. Mr Wyer stated that the six largest libraries in the state ranked in this order: Omaha, University, State library, Peru normal, Creighton, Lincoln City library. Omaha operated its own bindery with success the past year. This cost less and was more convenient than outside printing. He reported that a gift of 1700v. had been received by the University library, the largest ever offered. The State library is becoming strictly a law library. Peru library is being classified and cataloged. Lincoln City circulation has increased under unfavorable conditions. There are new libraries at Fremont and Norfolk, and new buildings at York and Falls City. The Norfolk library coöperates with the high school.

The state commission report of Edna Bullock showed the state work one of growth and adaptation to conditions, not a following of precedent. Miss Bullock spoke of the unlike conditions in the east and west. She said the aim of the commission is to be helpful but never officious.

Many practical topics were discussed during the half hour given to the question box, conducted by Miss Tobitt of Omaha. The following officers were elected to serve the coming year: President, Edith Tobitt of the Omaha Public library; first vice-president, Miss Abbott, Lincoln City library; second vice-president, Miss Rulon, Peru normal; secretary, Miss Mullikin, University library; treasurer, Miss O'Brien, Omaha.

Nebraska has 82 active libraries in the state, containing over 300,000v.

News from the Field

East

Melrose, Mass., has been offered \$25,000 for a public library by Mr Carnegie.

The work of putting the Abbey paintings in place at the Boston Public library is about complete.

The Springfield (Mass.) City library has received a gift of a very valuable collection of American Indian relics. A museum of archæology has lately been fitted up in the science museum, to which this is a valuable addition.

R. R. Bowker, editor of Library journal, New York city, and Alice Mitchell, of Cambridge, Mass., were married in Brookline, January 1, by Edward Everett Hale, D. D. A long tour abroad will occupy their time for several months.

J. C. Dana was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the clubs of Springfield, Mass., before leaving for Newark, N. J. The company was representative of the best citizens of the city, and gave expression to high appreciation of Mr Dana as a man and as a librarian.

The Connecticut State library has a new book plate. The design is extremely neat and pretty and conveys an outline of historic events connected with the state. It is the work of W. F. Hopson of New Haven. The plate contains the state coat of arms, and sketch of the first capitol created here in 1730, the present capitol and the charter oak and scrolls representing the Fundamental orders of 1638-39, and the charter of 1692.

The public library of Watertown, Mass., has just opened a new fireproof book-room, the gift of H. H. Hunnewell. Having installed a Library Bureau steel stock, the library will dispose of its former ash book cases to a library needing them. This library of 27,000v. is being reclassified, and is doing some good work. It contains three books for each man, woman, and child in the place, and the circulation averages 5 or

6v. per capita each year, with 50 per cent of fiction.

John Cotton Dana left the City library, Springfield, Mass., January 11, for his new field at Brooklyn, N. Y., followed by the good wishes of his entire staff and the whole community. No one has yet been chosen to fill his place. Alice Shepherd, who has been in the library for more than 20 years, and is first assistant, has been appointed acting librarian, assisted by Miss Medlicott in the general supervision.

Central Atlantic

Nyack, N. Y., has received an offer of \$15,000 from Mr Carnegie for a library building.

Oneida, N. Y., has been offered \$11,000 for a public library by Mr Carnegie on the usual conditions.

Rev. W. J. McCallen has been appointed librarian of the American Catholic historical society, whose collection is in Philadelphia.

Andrew Carnegie has been elected a trustee of the New York Public library to fill a vacancy. This will give him a personal oversight of the expenditure of \$5,000,000 which he has given the city for library buildings.

The Webster Free circulating library, which serves the constituency of the East side home settlement of New York city, reports a circulation of 125,600v. with 12,352v. on the shelves. The principal work is with and for the teachers and pupils of the district.

Julia A. Hopkins (N. Y. '95-'96), assistant cataloger at the Carnegie library, Pittsburg, Pa., has been made librarian of the Wylie avenue branch of this library, this position having been left vacant by the resignation of Miss Wilson. May L. Prentiss (N. Y. '99-'00), for some time assistant cataloger at the Bryn Mawr college library, will take Miss Hopkins' place as assistant cataloger at the Carnegie library.

C. Alexander Nelson, of the Columbia university library, has received official notice that a "Diploma of honorable mention" has been awarded him for the exhibit of the catalog of the Astor library at the Pan-American exposition. This seems to be the first time that the work of an individual librarian has been recognized at any exposition. Mr Nelson has prepared a new catalog of the books on education in the libraries of Columbia university, a volume of 435 pages.

December 10, 1901, was celebrated by the James Prendergast library, Jamestown, N. Y., as Founder's day, in memory of its patron. During the time the library was open throughout, handsomely decorated, and thronged with visitors. The annual book display was made on this day, and on convenient tables were placed new books, rare books, specially bound books, children's books and Christmas books. In the evening addresses were made by prominent citizens and eulogies pronounced on James Prendergast, to whom the library is due, and on Solomon Jones, for many years a trustee of the library, and who recently died. It was a delightful occasion throughout and will increase interest in the library.

Central

Tipton, Iowa, has received \$10,000 from Andrew Carnegie for a library building.

Lansing, Mich., has received an offer of \$55,000 from Mr Carnegie on the usual terms.

The Case library at Cleveland is again opened to the public in its new and enlarged quarters.

Bedford, Ind., has been offered \$15,000 for a new library building on the usual conditions.

Gertrude A. Baker has been elected librarian of the new Carnegie library of East Liverpool, Ohio.

Judge A. Oliver of Onawa, Iowa, offers that town a library building on two lots, \$4000 for books and furniture, upon condition that the town pay \$1000 yearly for its support.

Akron, Ohio, has been offered \$70,000 for a public library on the usual conditions, by Mr Carnegie.

Andrew Carnegie has given \$75,000 to Madison, Wis., for a public library building on the usual terms.

Three reading-rooms in school buildings will be opened in Chicago as an experiment by the school board.

Danville, Ill., has received \$40,000 from Mr Carnegie for a public library building upon the usual conditions.

Marshalltown Iowa, has received \$30,000 for a library building on the usual conditions, from Mr Carnegie.

The board of education of Detroit were in a deadlock for a month over the election of a library commissioner.

Bloomington, Ind., has received an offer of \$15,000 from Andrew Carnegie, for a library building, on the usual conditions.

A library club has been formed by the staff of the Detroit Public library and monthly meetings will be held for profit and pleasure.

Huntington, Ind., has received \$25,000 from Andrew Carnegie for a library building, all the conditions already having been met.

Mrs Jennie B. Jessup has been chosen librarian of Laporte (Ind.) public library. Mrs Jessup was formerly librarian of this library.

Columbus, Ohio, has been offered \$150,000 for a library building on condition of furnishing a site, and a maintenance fund of \$20,000 a year.

Michigan City (Ind.) Public library has received a gift of \$2500 from Mrs F. C. Austin of Chicago. This frees the library from debt and leaves a substantial sum for new books.

The Detroit Public library staff had a Christmas tree at the library. Mr Utley officiated in the rôle of Santa Claus and distributed the gifts, useful and ornamental. Refreshments were served and social pleasures followed.

Charles E. Wright, Pratt '97, has resigned the librarianship of the Carnegie library at Carnegie, Pa., to accept a position in the Cincinnati Public library, the change to go into effect some time in February.

The report of the McClymonds Public library at Massillon, Ohio, gives a circulation last year of 45,000v. with 10,736v. on the shelves; 16,400v. were issued from the children's room, 50 per cent of which were fiction. The per cent of fiction in the remainder was 75.

In appreciation of the 25 years of service of F. M. Crunden, as librarian of St Louis, the present library board and all preceding members gave a banquet in honor of Mr Crunden, at the St Louis club, January 16. The library staff also presented Mr Crunden with a handsome clock.

In the public library of Chicago 1,761,058 books were taken from the library for home use during the year just closed. The reference rooms were visited by 122,525 people who consulted 333,469v. The cost of maintaining the library was \$219,700. The library now contains 274,594v. There were 12,496 new volumes added last year.

The Dayton Public library held the Christmas cheer within its walls by decorating with fragrant greens, using special colored lists of selected books, book notes, and brilliant covers of Christmas magazines. A special bulletin containing a reader's directory, giving full and plain information about the library and museum, was provided beforehand, and 5000 distributed through the schools and factories.

The Carnegie offer to Detroit will not be available for some time to come, so far as the main library is concerned, on account of the impossibility of submitting to the people the question of issuing bonds to buy sites until the election next fall. There is money in the treasury, however, to buy some of the branch sites, and Mr Carnegie has signified his willingness to supply the funds for the erection of branch build-

ings at once. The plan contemplates the five branch buildings to be built at a cost of \$50,000 each.

At the beginning of the reading season a systematic effort was made by the librarian of the East St Louis Public library to induce the workingmen of the city to make use of the library. As the city is both a large manufacturing center and the terminal for many railways, a considerable per cent of its population is engaged in the mechanic arts and by the transportation lines. To reach this class, among whom no great interest in the library had ever been manifested, a small, printed slip was prepared, in which were set forth some facts concerning the library and its advantages. Several thousands of these slips were circulated through the pay envelopes of a number of the largest employers of labor in the city, and while it is as yet too early to judge of the complete results, the effort has been so far sufficiently resultant to warrant hopes of greater success.

South

The Alumni association of the Louisiana State university has decided that the alumni memorial would take the form of a library building. It is hoped to lay the corner-stone at the next commencement.

A very valuable collection of letters and papers sent to John Brown while in prison, and which has been lost for the past 40 years, has just come to light in the State library of Virginia. The State librarian claims a prior personal right to sell exact copies of them to the New York newspapers before allowing the public to see the originals.

The Howard library at Nashville, Tenn., has been renamed the Carnegie library in acknowledgment of the recent gift of Mr Carnegie. The report of Mary Hannah Johnson, the librarian, gives a pleasant story of progress. The library was a subscription library with a fee of \$2 a year until April, 1901. It then had 571 cardholders. It has been a free library for eight months, and now

has 3414 members. With 7000v. on the shelves they have had a circulation of 93,000v. and a reference use of 46,800v.

West

Fremont, Neb., is to receive \$15,000 for a library building from Mr Carnegie on the usual conditions.

Andrew Carnegie has offered to give Kalispell, Mont., \$10,000 for a library, provided the city furnishes a site and \$1000 yearly for maintenance. The city already expends that amount each year for library support.

Pacific Coast

M. E. Prentiss, first assistant in the Pasadena Public library, has been appointed librarian of the Pomona Public library, and began work January 1.

The Pomona (Cal.) Public library has been changed from a subscription to a free library. The library was lately closed for renovation and some necessary changes. It reopened January 2 in a much improved condition, with a new study alcove and also a children's corner. This library has always had open shelves.

Foreign

Andrew Carnegie has offered \$20,000 for a library building to St Catherines, Ontario.

The public library at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England, has issued a catalog of the books and tracts of pure mathematics in the library. It is the work of Librarian Anderton, and Sublibrarian Richardson, and is arranged by authors.

Wanted.—A set of Library notes and also Papers prepared for the World's library congress. Address, stating condition and price.

F. B. GRAVES, Librarian,
Alameda, Cal.

Wanted.—Exchange of unbound magazines wanted to complete sets; address Sarah H. Ames, Assoc. Libn., Patterson Library, Westfield, N. Y.

Valuable Library Books

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By LUKE VINCENT LOCKWOOD. With 300 illustrations from photographs, including 12 artotypes. \$7.50 *net*.

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By A. HENRY SAVAGE LANDOR, author of "In the Forbidden Land." In two volumes, cover design in colors by the author, 269 illustrations. \$7.50 *net*.

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Translated from the Italian of Count Baldesar Castiglione by L. E. OPPYCKE. With 70 contemporary portraits from paintings, drawings, busts, reliefs, and medals by Mantegna, Raphael, Titian, Leonardo, Cellini, and others. Limp parchment, \$10.00 *net*.

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Classic and Contemporary Painting and Sculpture. By W. C. BROWNELL, author of "French Traits." New and enlarged edition, reset in larger and more attractive type, with 48 illustrations added. \$8.75 *net*.

Biography and History.

The Life of Robert Louis Stevenson.

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Eugene Field.

A Study in Heredity and Contradictions. By SLASON THOMPSON, collator of "Sharps and Flats." With many rare and valuable illustrations, including some of Mr. Field's own cartoons. In two volumes, \$3.00 *net*.

John Trumbull.

A brief sketch of his life, to which is added a catalogue of his works. By JOHN F. WEIR, N.A., M.A., Director of Yale School of Fine Arts. \$2.00 *net*.

Plutarch's Themistocles and Aristides.

A new translation from the original, with introduction and notes. By BERNADOTTE PERRIN, Professor of Yale University. \$2.50 *net*.

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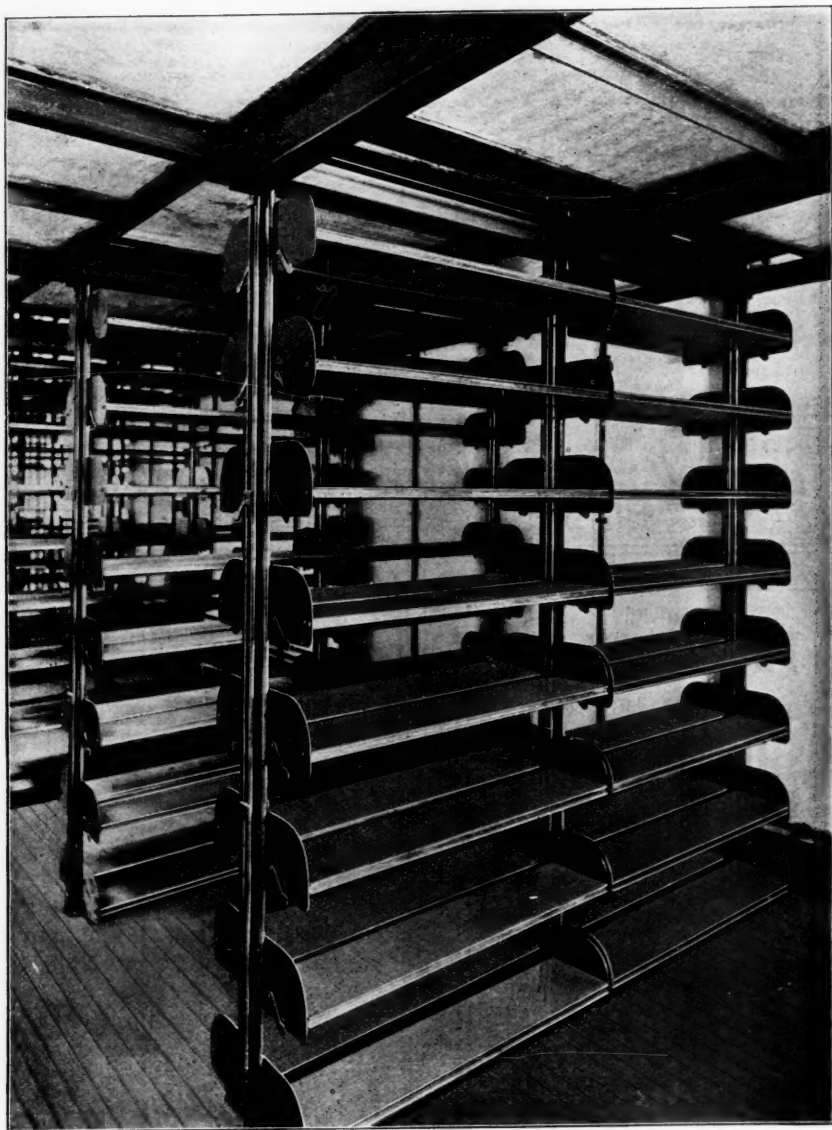
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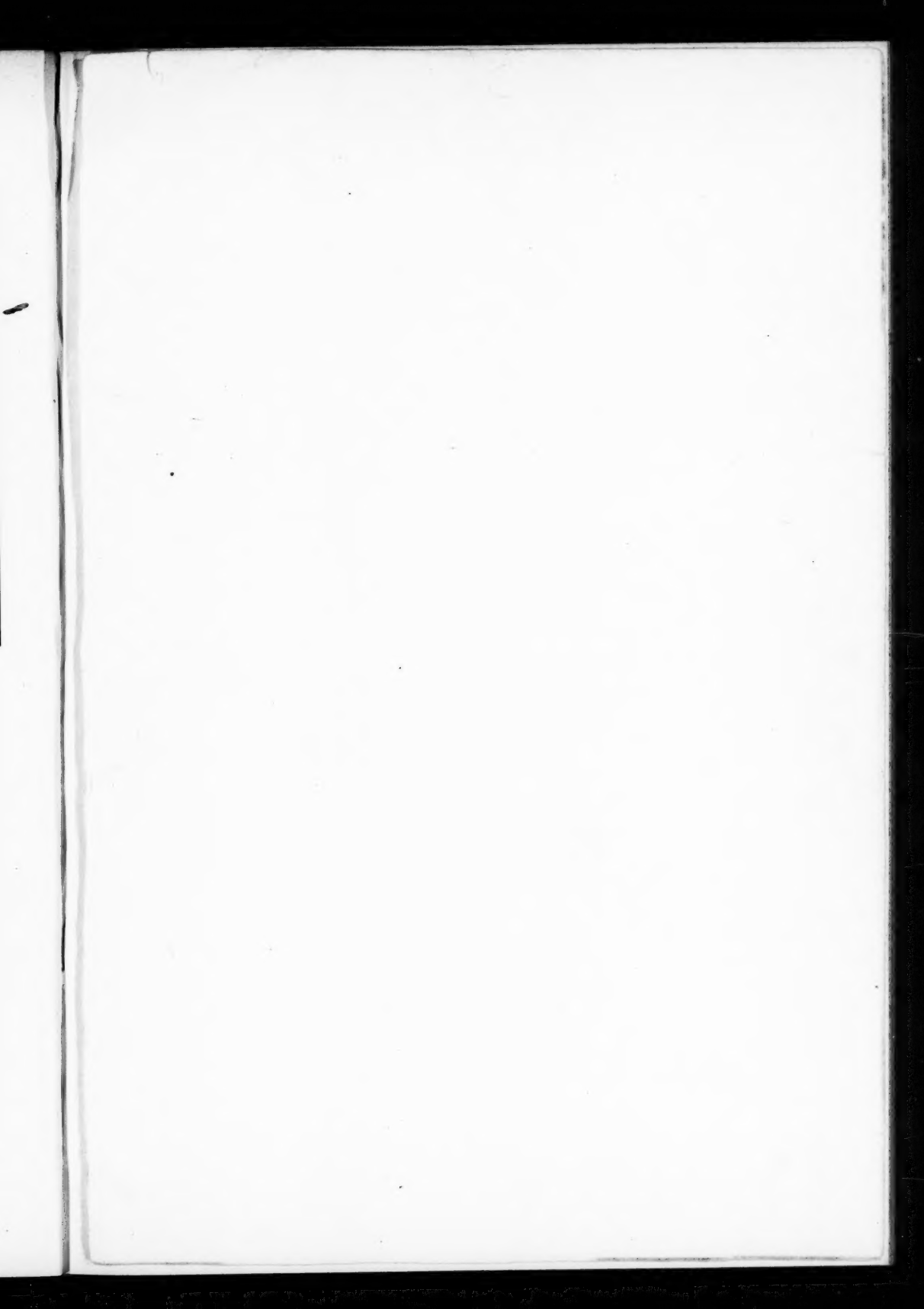
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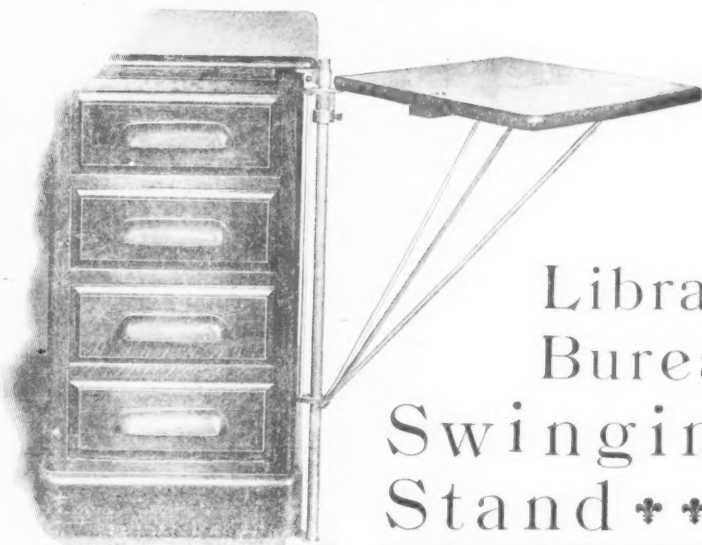
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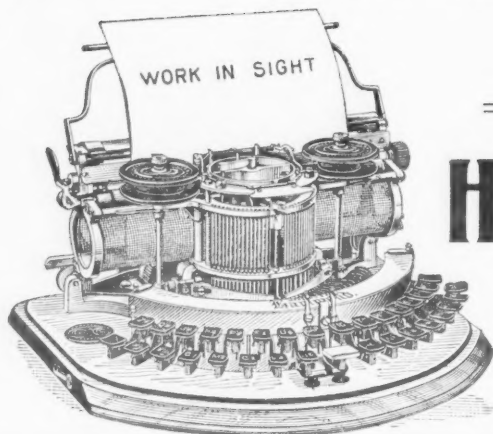
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